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THE INTER OCEAN

CURIOSITY SHOP

FOR THE YEAR 1881.

EDITED BY

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TO THE READER.

The three preceding annual volumes of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP are so well known to the readers of THE INTER OCEAN that this one, the fourth, needs no introduction. Since the issue of the number for the year 1880, numerous and hearty commendations have been received from representatives of many of the leading professions—educators, lawyers, editors, and business men generally—in regard both to the aim and the character of this form of OUR CURIOSITY SHOP; and all have in various ways expressed the opinion that, in its treatment of the myriad subjects it touches, it has been at once thorough and concise, so that none were compelled to search through the usual bushel of chaff for the single coveted golden grain.

The intelligent reader will, upon a moment's reflection, appreciate the fact that each year the labor of preparing a work of this kind for the general public is materially increased. An annual encyclopedia confines itself to the recording of the events of the year; it is, as the newspaper, the hasty historian of the day. With OUR CURIOSITY SHOP, however, it is somewhat different. More than a barren chronological record of a twelve-month or a decade, it reaches out and appropriates for the benefit of its readers the most recent developments and discoveries of science; it seeks to explain the greater or lesser social and political movements of the past and of the hour; it compresses into the smallest space possible the best thought of religious teachers and other educators; and it presents for the noble emulation of the young the outlines of the lives and characters of those who have risen to distinction in the several walks of life. And the cost of this miniature library of miscellaneous information for the people is so trifling that it rests lightly upon all who are moved to purchase copies of it for themselves or for the use of their friends.

The attention of the readers of the following pages is invited to the Index, which has been compiled with considerable care, and without which OUR CURIOSITY SHOP would resemble a windowless, doorless storehouse, containing, perhaps, "many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore," but which, were it not for it, might remain "nameless here forever more."

T. C. M.



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THE INTER OCEAN CURIOSITY SHOP

FOR THE YEAR 1881.

CAPTAIN KIDD.

WILD ROSE, Wis.

Please give a sketch of Captain Kidd.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—William Kidd was born in Scotland, and it is supposed that Greenock, on the River Clyde, was his birthplace. His father is said to have been a minister of some nonconformist body. The son and pirate took to the sea from a stripling, and became a well-known and skillful seaman out of the port of New York. In the West Indian waters, Kidd earned the reputation of being a successful privateers-man against the French, a branch of naval warfare at that day scarcely removed from the lawless calling of a professed freebooter. He was quite handsomely rewarded by New York for his services in behalf of the colony against the rovers of the sea. A company was formed in the year 1695, composed of leading English gentlemen in Great Britain and in the Colonies, to make a business of privateering and reap the profits, which were known to be immense. The *Adventine Galley*, quite a large vessel for those days, was purchased, and the command given to Kidd, who sailed with two commissions, one of which empowered him to act against the French, and the other authorized him to cruise against pirates. The first of these commissions was from the Commissioners of the Admiralty, the other under the great seal. The King was to have one-tenth of all the booty, and the rest was to be divided between the shareholders and Kidd in certain

specified proportions. A portion was to be appropriated to the crew, who were to receive no regular pay. Kidd left Plymouth April 23, 1696, captured a French fishing vessel off Newfoundland, and in July reached New York, where he remained until September, when he sailed for Madagascar, then one of the strongholds of the buccaneers. In January of the following year he arrived at the island, and in 1698 reports were abroad in England that he had raised the black flag, and orders were dispatched to the effect that he be apprehended should he come within their reach. April of 1699 found him in the West Indies, whither he had gone in a vessel called the *Quidah Merchant*. This he secured in a lagoon in the island of Saona, near Hayti, and re-embarked in a small sloop named the *San Antonio* for the colonies of America. He sailed up Long Island Sound to Oyster Bay, after making a landing in Delaware Bay, and there took aboard a New York lawyer, named James Emott, whom he afterward sent to Boston to the Earl of Bellamont, who had become Governor of the colonies. Emott was Kidd's advance agent sent forward to ascertain how the privateersman would be received. While the lawyer was absent upon this mission, Kidd buried some bales of goods and treasure on Gardiner's Island. To the inquiries of the New York lawyer Bellamont made evasive answers, and then later induced Kidd to proceed to Boston, where he landed July 1, 1699. Five days after that, Kidd, who was examined by the

council, was sent to England, where he was given something of the form of a trial. He was permitted to have no counsel, was not allowed to send for papers or witnesses, and was, of course, found guilty of piracy and of the murder of one of his crew; he struck this man on the head with a bucket during an altercation, but claimed that the seaman was mutinous at the time, and affirmed that his men forced him to take the Quidah Merchant in the face of his opposition. Kidd was hanged at Execution Dock with nine of his associates. Bellamont fitted out another vessel to go in search of the Quidah Merchant, but news came before the search was begun that the latter had been stripped and burned by the men left with it by Kidd. The same person secured the treasure on Gardiner's Island, which, with what was found with Kidd on the San Antonio, amounted to about \$70,000.

LAMARTINE.

ADAMSVILLE, Wis., Oct. 19, 1880.

Please give a sketch of the French author, Lamartine.

D. L. V.

Answer.—Alphonse de Lamartine was born at Macon in 1790, and died at Paris in 1869. The youth, who for nearly half a century played so important a part in French politics, and whose writings have contributed so much to the literature of his native country, belonged to a royalist family that had felt the heavy hand of the revolutionists, and yet himself became a Liberal leader of France. After completing his studies at the school of the Jesuits at Belley, he returned home at the age of 19, and devoted himself to reading the poets. In 1811 he went to Italy, and three years later, returning to France, entered the royal body guards. His elegy of the "Lac" (Lake) was written in 1817, and in it he gave a very strong hint of his ability as a great poet, and in 1820 his earliest published collection appeared under the title of *Meditation's Progress*, which he had some difficulty in finding a publisher of, but which won a remarkable success, 45,000 copies being sold in four years, then a most unusual reception for any author's productions. Having been appointed Secretary of Legation to the embassy to Naples, he was married to a young English lady, Miss Birch, who, besides possessing the pleasing and graceful accomplishment of wealth, had received a brilliant literary and artistic education. Following these events was the change of his residence, in 1824, to Florence, and the publication of an imitation of Byron's "Childe Harold," which drew him into a duel with Colonel Pepe, an Italian revolutionist, who came near making a vacancy in the French Legation. In the year 1829 Lamartine was elected a member of the Academy. A year later he was Minister Plenipotentiary at Athens, but resigned, declining to serve the new government, and he offered himself to the people as a candidate for the Chamber, but without success. With his wife and their daughter, he made, in 1832, the tour of the East, which had been the religious and romantic dream of his life, and traveled in regal splendor, making princely presents, buying houses for his convenience, and having entire caravans at his command. His daughter died at Beyrout while he was on a visit to Jerusalem. At the end of

sixteen months he returned to Paris by way of Constantinople and the Danube, and discovered he had been chosen to a seat in the Chamber of Deputies. In his maiden speech he failed. He was both conservative and progressive, and in 1842 foreshadowed his ultimate adherence to the liberal side. His eloquence was manifested in 1848, when the Duchess of Orleans appeared in the Assembly with her eldest son, the Count of Paris, and an attempt was made to declare the latter king by acclamation; he raised his voice for the establishment of a provisional government, and he was called to form part of it. Some idea may be had of his popularity at that time when it is known that he was elected to the National Assembly from ten departments. His wonderful influence with the fickle masses was, however, soon changed on account of his allying himself with Ledru-Bollin, and insisting that that representative of the Reds should be a member of the Executive Commission instituted by the Assembly. For the Presidency in 1849 he received only 17,910 votes, and was returned to the Assembly by but a single obscure department. After the coup d'etat of Dec. 2, 1851, he retired from public life. His later years were spent in close literary work. The municipality of Paris, in 1860, presented him with a country seat near the Bois de Boulogne, and in 1867 the government of the last Napoleon gave him for life the income from a capital of \$500,000 francs, but he lived only two years to enjoy it.

PROFESSOR DAVID SWING.

GRANT FORD, Ill., Oct. 18, 1880.

Please give a biographical sketch of Professor David Swing, and state to what religious denomination he belongs.

JAMES LANE.

Answer.—David Swing was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 18, 1830. His father's ancestors were of German origin, and settled in the United States about 150 years ago. The father, who was a steamboat man, died in 1832, and left two sons to the care of his widow, who, when David was 7 years of age, married again, and finally the family settled on a farm near Williamsburg, in Ohio. At the age of 18 he entered Miami University, at Oxford, from which he was graduated in 1852. When it is remembered how few opportunities he enjoyed as a farm boy, the import of this will appear. He had determined upon entering the ministry, and studied theology at Cincinnati, when he returned to Miami University, where for thirteen years he filled the chair of Latin and Greek, and during which time he varied his duties by occasional preaching. In 1854 Professor Swing was married to Miss Elizabeth Porter, the daughter of a physician of Oxford. In the year 1866 he was called to the pastorate of the Westminister Presbyterian Church, a New School organization of Chicago, and he came and filled that pulpit until the reunion of the Old and New School branches of the Presbyterian Church. When this reunion took place, it was decided to join the North Presbyterian Church and the Westminister Church, the former belonging to what was then the Old School body, and the latter to the New School. Mr. Swing remained as the pastor of the new organization, which has since been known as the Fourth Presbyterian.

Church. In April, 1874, the controversy as to his orthodoxy took the shape of charges and specifications preferred in the Chicago Presbytery against him by Professor F. L. Patton, and in the charges it was claimed that he was not in accord with the teachings and doctrines of the Presbyterian Church. The trial was long, and excited considerable discussion in and out of the church. By the vote of a majority of the members of the Presbytery, Professor Swing was acquitted, but, on the case being appealed to the Synod—the next higher court of the Presbyterian Church—that judicatory reversed the decision of the Presbytery. Mr. Swing, after some time, withdrew from the Presbyterian Church. He served the Fourth Presbyterian church as stated supply until December, 1875, when he retired, and the congregation now known as Central Church began to gather, and services were held weekly in McVicker's Theater. Since the new Central Music Hall was finished the church services have been held there. Mrs. Swing died not long since at her old home at Oxford. Professor Swing does not float the banner of any denomination.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

WHITEWATER, Wis., Oct. 19, 1880.

1. When was the first railroad built, and by whom? 2. Who is the richest railroad owner in the United States, and how many miles does he own? 3. When was the Providence and Stonington Railroad built; when and by whom the Norwich and Worcester Road, and when was the Northern Pacific started? 4. What are the wages of all classes of railroad men? Are they paid by the day, month, or year. IRA C. HARRIS.

Answer.—1. The first railroad for general traffic was the Stockton and Darlington Road, which was thirty-seven miles long, built by Edward Pease and George Stephenson, and opened Sept. 27, 1825. To the venerable Peter Cooper is due the construction of the first American locomotive, that was built for the Baltimore and Ohio Road. The first railroad constructed in America was projected by Gridley Bryant, in 1825, and carried through by him and Colonel T. H. Perkins the year following. It is a matter of interest that it was built to supply the Quincy granite for the Bunker Hill monument. It was four miles in length. 2. It is not known how much railroad stock Jay Gould owns and controls, but he probably owns and controls more than any other one person in the United States. Authorities differ, however, others affirming that Vanderbilt is the heaviest railroad stockholder. 3. We presume this inquiry is made regarding what is now the New York, Providence and Boston Railroad, which is a consolidation of the New York and Stonington Railroad Company, chartered in Connecticut in May, and the New York, Providence and Boston Railway Company, chartered in Rhode Island in June, 1832. What is known as the Norwich and Worcester Railroad was chartered in Massachusetts in March, 1833. The first part of the Northern Pacific Railroad undertaken, from Duluth to the Red River of the North, was completed in 1870, the company having been chartered by act of Congress approved July 2, 1864. These facts are from "Poor's Manual." 4. It would be as impossible to give the "wages of railroad men of all classes"

as to give the wages of the people of the United States. They range from 75 cents a day up.

GENERAL CROOK—DR. LIVINGSTONE.

BRUSHY FORK, Ill.

1. Please give a history of General George Crook; he has command of a department in the West. 2. Why is Mrs. Livingstone's name not mentioned in the travels of Livingstone? MRS. DELILA CROOK.

Answer.—General George Crook was born Sept. 8, 1828, near Dayton, Ohio. He entered the army, after graduating from West Point, in 1852, and joined his early fortunes with the Fourth Infantry. Actively engaged on the frontier before the breaking out of the slavery war, he commanded what was known as the Pitt River expedition, during which, June 10, 1857, he was wounded severely by an Indian arrow. In 1861 he was called from his captaincy in the regular army to the office of Colonel of the Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteers, and served in Western Virginia, where, at the head of 1,300 men, he repulsed a much larger force of rebels at Louisburg, Greenbrier County, April 23, 1862. The September following, he became a Brigadier General, and later took command of the district of Kanawha, and was engaged in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. In the beginning of 1863, General Crook was transferred to command the Second Cavalry Division of the Army of the Cumberland, and fought at the battle of Chickamauga. It was in the general movements attending the siege of Chattanooga that he was watching the main fords in order to observe the rebels and protect General Rosecrans' trains in passage from Bridgeport to Chattanooga. General Crook could only watch the main fords, while the intermediate ones were numerous. At one of the latter the rebel General Wheeler crossed with a large force of cavalry, and moved toward the communications of the army. When this was discovered, General Crook, after some preliminary operations, started in rapid pursuit of the secessionists. He overtook Wheeler, whose forces were engaged and punished. The rebels, after suffering loss, retreated, and would have pillaged Murfreesboro had not General Crook thrown his soldiers into a position which saved the last-named place from sacking. This series of rapid movements was of great benefit to the Union army, and was attended with such disaster to the rebel Wheeler that he was driven across the Tennessee, with heavy losses. In April, 1864, General Crook commanded the Third Division Cavalry in West Virginia and May 9 he defeated and killed the rebel General Jenkins at Cloyd Mountain. On July 18 he was made brevet Major General, and put in command of the Army of West Virginia. General Crook took part in General Sheridan's brilliant operations, in the famous Shenandoah Valley, especially at Opequan, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek, and in his cavalry operations ending in the capitulation of the rebel General Lee. On Oct. 21, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of Major General of Volunteers. General Crook was surprised Feb. 21, 1865, and taken prisoner by guerrillas, and exchanged March 20. For his services in the campaign of 1861, in West Virginia, he was given the rank of Brevet Brigadier

General, United States army. After the war closed, he was, July 28, 1866, made Lieutenant Colonel of the Twenty-third Infantry, and was further honored for Fisher's Hill, Virginia, by being breveted Major General. Since the war, General Crook has been actively engaged in the West, and for some years has been in command of the Military Department of the Platte, with headquarters at Omaha. He was promoted from the Lieutenant Colonelcy of the Twenty-third Infantry to be Brigadier General of the regular army, and has had one of the most difficult departments of the West to command. During his term of service in the Department of the Platte, the Black Hills have been opened, and the Sioux war, which followed, fell largely within his department. In the dead of winter, 1876, he took the field against Crazy Horse and the lawless bands of Sioux who were then in the Powder River country, and again, in the great campaign of the summer of the same year, he personally led the troops who were operating from the south against the Sitting Bull movement. At the battle of the Rosebud, June 17, 1876, he had a horse shot under him. General Crook is a quiet, plain, earnest man, of simple habits, retiring disposition, thoughtful, and one of the most persevering of the later race of plainmen. 2. We are not aware that Dr. Livingstone's wife is not mentioned. Mrs. Livingstone died in Africa before the fame of her husband had filled the world.

DISRAELI'S NOVEL "ENDYMION."

KENOSHA, Kenosha Co., Wis.
Will you please give an interpretation of the characters in "Endymion," Lord Beaconsfield's last work.
C. C.

Answer.—We have received several inquiries in reference to Earl Beaconsfield's late novel "Endymion," and reply to these while the subject is agitating the public mind. And to give a right view of the novel, as well as its characters, we briefly repeat the story in outline: Endymion Farrar is a son of a Privy Councillor, who, in the changes in public life, finds he is a political failure, and, in utter disgust, commits suicide. Two children survive, the twins, Myra and Endymion; the former is made a governess in a rich banker's family, the other has a minor clerkship under the government. The Secretary of State goes to the wealthy banker to woo the daughter, and instead woos Myra, the poor but beautiful governess. They are married, Myra and the Secretary, and the now wealthy and powerful sister is able to effectually further her brother's interests. His tailor, the great man, perceives he is an unusual person, and gives him a credit that is to run until Endymion's greatness is assured; from Adriana Neuchatel he receives £20,000 in a plain envelope, an obliging Premier aids the young man by raising him to a considerable position in the civil service, and at the same time is made the Premier's private secretary. Then follows his entrance into Parliament, and into the Cabinet, and at last at the head of the Ministry. The book closes with the thanksgiving of Myra, widow of Lord Roehampton, and married to King Florestan, and Endymion—the one Queen of France,

the other Premier of England. The following may be accepted as a substantially correct key to the characters in the novel of the ex-Premier, which is now being so extensively discussed:

Endymion.....	The Earl of Beaconsfield
Myra.....	The Empress Eugenie
Prince (afterward King) Florestan,	Louis Napoleon
Lord Roehampton.....	Lord Palmerston
Lord Montfort.....	Lord Melbourne
Sidney Wilton.....	Lord Sidney Herbert
Lord Waldershare.....	Lord Strangford
Nigel Penruddock.....	Cardinal Manning
Mr. Jorrocks.....	Mr. Milner Gibson
St. Barbe.....	George Augustus Sala (idealized)
Dr. Comely.....	Bishop Wilberforce ("Soapy Sam")
Job Thornberry.....	Richard Cobden
Sir Francis Burdett.....	Sir Francis Scrope
Adrian Neuchatel.....	Lionel Rothschild
Adriana Neuchatel.....	Lady Roseberry
Vigo, the tailor.....	Poole
Count Ferroll.....	Prince Bismarck
Agrippina.....	Queen Hortense

PENSION OFFICE STATISTICS.

EARLVILLE, Ill.
1. How many clerks are employed in the Pension Office at the city of Washington? 2. How many claims on an average are passed upon monthly? 3. What pay does the Commissioner get? 4. Will claims for arrears of pensions filed July, 1879, be passed upon in the next ten years if they are worked off as rapidly as they are now?
M. D. PHILLIPS.

Answer.—1. From the following may be obtained some notion of the amount of work done by the several branches of the Pension Office at Washington:

Commissioner of Pensions.....	1
Chief Clerk.....	1
Chief Clerk's branch.....	57
Medical Referee's branch.....	7
Records and Accounts' division.....	37
Special service.....	31
Invalid division.....	132
Widows' division.....	97
Navy, old war, and bounty land division.....	57
Arrears division.....	38

2. The latest official report of the Commissioner of Pensions to the Secretary of the Interior, just printed, shows that during the past year there have been added to the pension list within the time indicated, 19,545 of new pensioners, and 1,377 others were added to the rolls that had previously been dropped. The net increase during the year aggregated 8,047. At the time of making up the figures for the annual report there were 250,802 pensioners on the rolls of the several agencies, consisting of the following-described pensioners:

Army invalids.....	133,212
Army widows, minor children, and dependent relatives.....	78,772
Navy invalids.....	2,060
Navy widows, minor children, and dependent relatives.....	1,870
Surviving soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812.....	10,138
Widows of deceased soldiers and sailors of that war.....	24,750

3. The Commissioner of Pensions receives a salary of \$3,600 a year. 4. We presume they will, but we suggest that this last inquiry flavors of the conundrum order, and, therefore, the Pension Office had best be advised.

STATE RIGHTS.

ST. BERNICE, Ind., Oct. 15, 1880.
What is the meaning of "State rights," as claimed at the present time by the States lately in rebellion?
L. H. NEED.

Answer.—The heresy of nullification, started in 1798, by what are known as the Kentucky resolutions, culminated in secession in 1861. It was held, substantially, that the right belonged

to the States individually to interpret the Constitution each one for itself, and thus to impose a check of a new description on the general law-making power. The doctrine of the Constitution had been, and is held to be, that if the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the President should together assent to an act of legislation, it should become a law; and that even if the President objected to the bill, and two-thirds of each of the houses still sanctioned it, it should become a law notwithstanding his objections. Before a law was certain of a place upon the statute book there were four parties whose opinion needed to be taken, and they were the two houses, the President, and the Supreme Court. The nullifiers desired to add a fifth, namely, the judgment of a State, and it was held by such men that the State thus nullifying an act or law of Congress was still in the Union, entitled to all its former privileges, although refusing obedience to the law or act in question. Then was pronounced the rank secession doctrine, clear and full, as follows: Should the general executive make attempts to enforce such act or law within the territory of the nullifying State, then an unconstitutional wrong would begin, and the State would have the right to retire from the Union, while the United States could have no right to obstruct the exercise of its will in that respect. This was the principle to vindicate which the South appealed to arms, and which was quietly laid away among the daisies at the foot of that apple tree at Appomattox, that memorable April day nearly sixteen years ago.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

NEWARK, Ill., Oct. 12, 1880.

1. Please state the object of the Freedmen's Bureau, when inaugurated, when discontinued, and why. 2. Has the General Government done anything for the education of the freedmen? 3. What ground has the author of the "Fate of Republics" for saying, on page 246: "The State of Pennsylvania, year after year, has been carried for the Republican party by the fraudulent returns of the city of Philadelphia?"

J. G. CAMPBELL.

Answer.—At the close of the slavery war the late slaves crowded to the cities and principal towns, and many became dependent on the government for transportation to places where employment could be obtained; and at the same time it was necessary, by an active supervision, to protect their rights from their former owners, and to fit them for the duties and privileges of a free life. To aid the government in this work, Congress passed an act March 3, 1865, organizing in the War Department the "bureau of refugees, freedmen, and abandoned lands," which was popularly known as the "Freedmen's Bureau." This remained in operation, with somewhat enlarged powers, until July 1, 1869, when its functions ceased, excepting the educational department; that continued till July 1, 1870, and that for the collection of claims. The bureau exercised a general supervision over the freedmen, as also over loyal refugees, protecting their rights, deciding their disputes, aiding them in obtaining work, extending facilities of education, and furnishing them with medical treatment. It was discontinued because its chief objects had been accomplished in the four or five years succeeding

its organization. 2. The Bureau aided in establishing a large number of institutions for the higher education of the freedmen, many of which are now in active operation. Among these may be named the following: Howard University, at Washington; Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga.; Claflin University, at Orangeburg, S. C.; Straight University, at New Orleans, La.; Fisk University and Central University, Tennessee; Wayland (theological) Seminary, at Washington; the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, at Hampton, Va. 3. None that we are aware.

FICTIONS OF FREE TRADE FIGURES.

HILLSDALE, Mich.

Will you tell what it costs on the dollar to collect our duties on imports? There is a man here who says it costs \$27 to collect every \$1 of our duties on imports. He is a man that should know something about it if intelligence is anything to judge by.

JOHN F. KING.

Answer.—The man who told you so is much too "intelligent" to remain long outside of an insane asylum. Probably he is one of those astute free traders who make a steady business of knocking experience and common sense on the head whenever those monstrosities and pests of this nebular world put in an appearance about his neighborhood. The following table, compiled from the annual reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, show the real state of the facts during the last four fiscal years, each ending June 30:

Years.	Receipts from customs.	Cost of collection.	Cost per \$100.
1877....	\$130,956,493.07	\$6,501,037.57	\$4.90
1878....	130,170,680.20	5,826,974.32	4.41
1879....	137,250,047.70	5,485,779.03	3.94
1880....	186,522,064.60	5,995,878.06	3.18

There is a *theory* of the free traders—it is a theory improved and improvable, because directly contradicted by many facts—that the duty on an imported article is added to the price, not only of that article, but of every article of like kind produced in the United States, the former enhancement going into the Treasury at Washington, the latter into the pockets of our domestic producers as a bounty to privilege created by the tariff laws. Possibly it is in this circuitous and falsifying sense that our correspondent's informant claims that "it costs \$27 to collect every \$1 of our duties on imports." According to that prodigious assumption, it cost, in the last fiscal year, *over five thousand millions of dollars* (\$5,036,095,744.20) to collect \$186,522,064.60. Who is so foolish as to believe that?

BATTLES OF THE SLAVERY WAR.

APPLETON, Wis., Oct. 25.

Please state, to settle a dispute, what were the two largest battles of the late war, and by what army and under whose command, where they fought. What was the heaviest loss in one day's fighting, and where during the war? I say Antietam, others say Gettysburg. There was three days' fighting at Gettysburg, but the question is were there as many lives lost in any one of the days as there were in the one day at Antietam?

J. TOWLE.

Answer.—It is not an easy matter to decide what was the greatest battle of any war. It does not follow that where the loss was heaviest or the force the largest, there was the greatest battle. As to Antietam and Gettysburg, however, it may be said that General McClellan's loss at Antietam was 12,500 killed, wounded, and missing; General Lee is said by Confederate writers to have lost 9,000, but

the most generally accepted figures are 15,000. The total loss in the three days' fighting at Gettysburg, under General Meade and General Lee, July 1 and 2-3, 1863, was, in round numbers, 28,200 Union troops and 37,000 rebels. The following day, General Grant, with a loss of about 4,450, took Vicksburg from Pemberton, inflicting a loss on the rebels of 9,000 killed and wounded and 30,000 prisoners. In the battle of Chancellorsville, May 2-3, between General Hooker and Lee, the former lost 15,000 in killed and wounded and 17,000 prisoners, and the latter 18,000 in killed and wounded and 5,000 prisoners.

SENSATIONS OF A DEAD AND BURIED ARM.

MACON, N. C., Nov. 13, 1880.

In conversation with a gentleman who had lost one of his arms, he chanced to remark that when his arm was amputated and buried, it was rather carelessly done. It was interred with the fingers crooked, and gave him excessive pain, until the surgeon relieved it by straightening the fingers. Now, I desire to know if this is the case, and why it is so? If so, why should it not increase the pain if one were to strike the dead severed arm with a stone? B. I. E.

Answer.—An excellent authority in this city furnishes us with the following: It is a fact, well established, that after limbs have been amputated persons feel certain sensations, at times, as if originating in the removed parts. The explanation as advanced by physiologists is that the nerves are pressed upon in the end of the stump, and the pain is referred by the mind, through habit, to the former termination of the nerves. It is probable that fancy rather than fact enters into many cases, and certainly the case cited above should be ranked under this head, so far as relates to any lessening of the pain consequent on straightening out the buried fingers. If such a result could follow the cause named, striking the dead arm with a stone should naturally have caused a much greater sensation of pain.

A FALSE ALARM—GENERAL JACKSON'S FINE.

TROY MILLS, Iowa, Oct. 14, 1880.

Is it true that General Jackson was fined \$1,000 for fighting the battle of New Orleans while the treaty of peace, signed at Paris, was crossing the ocean?

Answer.—General Jackson was not fined for fighting the battle of New Orleans, the facts being these: In March, 1815, while New Orleans was still under martial law, Judge Hall, of that city, granted a writ of habeas corpus for the release of Mr. Louailier, who had been arrested by order of General Jackson on the charge of exciting discontent among the troops. The person Louailier was a member of the Legislature of Louisiana, and was conspicuous among Jackson's enemies, who seemed to have forgotten that their city and State had been saved by the decision and skill of Jackson. Instead of obeying the instructions of the court, as expressed in the writ, Jackson had the Judge arrested and confined. When peace was formally declared, Hall was given his freedom, and then Jackson was summoned to answer for contempt of court. He was found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$1,000. Offers were made by a number to pay the fine, but he declined, and paid it himself, protecting the court. The money was afterward

refunded, with the interest, by an act of Congress in February, 1844.

HOGS.

CHICAGO, Ill.

What was the largest number of hogs received in Chicago for any one week? Were there ever 500,000 packed in one week? A DISPUTED POINT.

Answer.—We answer both these inquiries by quoting a paragraph from the commercial page of THE INTER OCEAN (daily) of Nov. 22, which is as follows: "The largest daily arrivals of hogs at Chicago were received Nov 25, 1879—64,643. The largest weekly arrivals were for the week just closed—299,691. The largest monthly receipts arrived in January, 1879—996,389."

LINCOLN'S VOTE IN ILLINOIS IN 1860.

OREGON, Ill., Oct. 13, 1880.

Had Lincoln a majority vote in Illinois in 1860? J. E. S.

Answer.—The following figures show the vote of Illinois for the several candidates for the Presidency of the United States in 1860:

Lincoln.....	172,161
Douglas.....	160,215
Bell.....	4,913
Breckinridge.....	2,204

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.

TISKILWA, Bureau Co., Ill.

Please give the full name of the Marquis of Lorne, Governor General of Canada. D. C.

Answer.—His full name is John George Edward Henry Douglas Sutherland Campbell.

BATTLES OF THE WAR—BLUCHER.

POLO, Ill.

1. What was the loss at Gettysburg, of the Union and rebel armies? also, at Chickamauga, and at Antietam? 2. Did General U. S. Grant ever lose a battle? 3. Were the rebel soldiers all Democrats? 4. What has become of General R. E. Lee? 5. Did Alexander the Great ever lose a battle? 6. Give a sketch of the life of Blucher. HENRY WORDEN.

Answer.—According to Alfred H. Guernsey, the losses at Gettysburg were as follows: The Union loss was 23,190, of whom 2,834 were killed, 13,713 wounded, and 6,643 missing. The Confederate loss, according to the same authority, has never been officially stated; but by the best estimates it was about 36,000, of whom about 5,000 were killed, 23,000 wounded, and 8,000 unwounded prisoners. General James H. Wilson states that the losses at Antietam were: McClellan's loss in this action was 2,010 killed, 9,416 wounded, and 1,043 missing. Total, 12,469. The same writer adds: "Lee's army, having fought on the defensive throughout, and frequently under cover, is estimated by Confederate writers to have lost only 9,000." The Union loss at Chickamauga is officially stated at 1,644 killed, 9,262 wounded, and 4,945 prisoners. The rebel reports are wanting for about one-third of the force, including Longstreet's own brigades, which were most severely engaged. In the two-thirds reported the loss was 1,394 killed, 8,974 wounded, and 882 missing—11,250 in all. 2. No. 3. All of them, except a few Unionists who were drafted into the rebel armies. 4. General Lee died at Lexington, Va., Oct. 12, 1870. 5. It is not known that he lost any. 6. Gebhart Lebrecht von Blucher was born at Rostock, in Mecklenburg-Schwerin, in 1742. His family was ancient, but poor, and he entered a regiment of Swedish hussars at the age of 15, but soon afterward went into the army of Prussia. He was in some of the battles of the

Seven-years' War, during which he gained a high reputation as a daring and resolute soldier, though his temper somewhat impeded his promotion. In 1770 he retired from the service at a supposed slight, but returned to it in 1776, and when the wars of the French revolution began he was colonel of a regiment of Black Hussars. He commanded the left wing of the Duke of Brunswick's army in 1783 with great credit for skill as well as courage. In the second war between France and Prussia he was commander of the Prussian cavalry. In 1802 he took possession of Erfurt and Mahlhäusen, and after the battle of Jena he made an extraordinary retreat through Lubeck, by which he drew the French across the Oder. On the taking of Lubeck he was obliged to capitulate, and was exchanged for Marshal Victor. He was employed in the War Department till the breaking out of hostilities against France in 1813, when he displayed the utmost activity and courage for the deliverance of Europe. At Lutzen the order of St. George was conferred on him by the Emperor Alexander, and, Aug. 26, he defeated Marshal Macdonald at Katzbach. Then followed several battles between him and Napoleon's forces, and he finally joined in the attack on Paris, March 30, 1814, which caused the surrender of the French capital and the end of the war. Had it not been for his sovereign, he would have severely retaliated the wrongs of Berlin on Paris. He then went to England, where he was received with enthusiasm. When Napoleon returned from Elba, in 1815, Blücher commanded the Prussian army in Belgium, which fought the campaign of Waterloo in conjunction with the British army under Wellington, after which he was created Prince of Wahlstadt. He was a second time present at the surrender of Paris. Prince Blücher died in extreme old age at Kriblowitz, in Silesia, Sept. 12, 1819. He was almost idolized by the Prussian nation. He always frankly expressed his obligations to General Gneisenau for his plans and military maneuvers.

CAPTAIN MAYNE REID.

LANESBORO, Minn.
Will you please publish a sketch of the life of the novelist, Captain Mayne Reid, his present place of residence, etc.? N.E.O.

Answer.—Mayne Reid was born in the North of Ireland, in 1818. His father was a Presbyterian minister, and it was the intention to have Mayne follow in his father's footsteps, and some day "wag his head in the pulpit." But when he was only 20 years of age he was allured from his studies in theology by a desire for foreign travel, and in 1838 he visited the city of New Orleans, and from that place made several hunting and trading excursions among the Indians of the Red River country, as well as Territories drained by the Missouri. In these trips he gained that information and knowledge of scenery, manners, and characteristics which he used to such advantage in his "Scalp-hunters," "White Chief," and others of his romances. He spent something more than five years on the prairies and plains, and in rapid tours of observation in almost all of the Western, Southern, and Northern States. Later we find him settled

in Philadelphia, where he began his literary career, contributing to the periodicals of the City of Brotherly Love as well as to the publications of New York. When the war with Mexico came, Reid in 1845 obtained a commission, and went to the front in the far Southwest. He was present at the siege and capture of Vera Cruz, and took an active part in various encounters; led the last charge of infantry at Churubusco, and the forlorn hope at the assault of Cehpultepec, where he was shot down and reported to be killed. For his gallantry at Chepultepec, Captain Reid was honorably mentioned. At the close of the war he resigned his commission, and, in the year 1849, he organized a body of men at New York to proceed to Hungary to aid in the struggle of that country for independence. When Reid arrived at Paris he received intelligence of the defeat of the Hungarian army of the South, Aug. 9, and the extinction of all hope by the surrender of Gorgie, at Arad, Aug. 14. He then repaired to London and produced, with great rapidity, a series of novels and juvenile works which have made him a favorite author with readers of all ages. He is the author of over forty books. Zell reports that Captain Reid died in 1870, although "Men of the Time" states that there were some books of that author published several years after.

POPULATION—PROFESSIONS—EXPORTS—IMPORTS.

MOMENOE, Ill., Nov. 16, 1880.
Please state: 1. Population United States in 1880. 2. Number engaged in agricultural pursuits. 3. Number engaged in factories. 4. Our principal products of importation and exportation with England, especially those that are subject to duty or tariff.

W. W. PARISH.

Answer.—1. The Superintendent of Census stated December 31 that, as near as could be learned then, the population was 50,152,559. 2 and 3. No publication of the statistics yet made by the census authorities. 4. Nearly every foreign manufacture is dutied in our tariff; hence, as nearly all the exports to this country from Great Britain and Ireland are finished products, it follows that nearly all our imports from those quarters are dutied. Statistics of imports by countries have not yet been published by the Washington authorities for the year ending June 30, 1880; but for the year ending June 30, 1878, which is a fair sample, our importation of dutied articles from Great Britain and Ireland amounted to \$119,842,685, equal to 27.427 per cent of the \$437,051,532 of such articles from all countries together. Not far from three-fifths of that proportion consisted of the following items: Manufactures of cotton, \$10,337,239; earthen, stone, and china ware, \$3,082,355; fancy goods, \$1,196,282; chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines, \$1,729,102; books, pamphlets, engravings, etc., \$1,032,406; manufactures of flax, \$2,426,470; fruits and nuts, \$2,115,351; manufactures of iron and steel, \$6,704,769; leather and manufactures of it, \$1,463,568; opium and extract of it, \$1,228,977; precious stones, \$1,214,511; salt, \$1,199,055; manufactures of silk, \$2,797,309; soda and the salts of it, \$4,495,327; manufactures of tin, \$9,575,354; wool and woollens, \$17,840,303; mass of unenumerated manufactures, \$1,346,897—total, \$69,785,275. In the same fiscal year our imports from all countries, free of duty,

amounted to \$171,099,579, of which Great Britain and Ireland supplied \$28,983,513, or nearly 17 per cent, consisting mainly of these items: Coin and bullion, \$12,552,008; articles, the produce or manufactures of the United States, brought back, \$1,094,240; certain chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines, \$1,003,636; chloride of lime, \$597,781; fur skins, undressed, \$523,313; gums, \$624,147; hides and skins, other than furs, \$2,933,677; india rubber and gutta percha, crude, \$784,314; rags of cotton or linen, \$1,158,251; other paper materials, \$1,005,471; silk, raw, \$526,252; tea, \$764,082; tin, in bars, blocks, or pigs, \$1,239,149; mass of unenumerated freearticles, \$1,510,541—total, \$26,396,862. England heavily taxes our tobacco and alcoholic liquors. She took from us in the fiscal year 1879 as much as 63,417,496 pounds of leaf tobacco, on which she levied an import duty of 3 shillings and 1½ pence, equal to 76 cents and 1 mill of our money. The duties on manufactured tobacco, snuff, and cigars are so high as to be almost prohibitory.

IMPORTANT EVENTS SINCE THE WAR.

RICEVILLE, Iowa.
Will you please inform us what the most important political events are that have transpired since the close of the rebellion. E. REED.

Answer.—Some of the more important political events in the United States may be named, although it is difficult in our brief space to give anything like a satisfactory list. Among these are the adoption of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States; the admission of Nebraska and Colorado as States; the elections of General Grant, Governor Hayes, and General Garfield as President by the Republican party; the impeachment of President Johnson; the enormous reduction of the public debt under Republican administrations; treaty with Russia, to purchase Russian America; treaty with Great Britain adjudicating the "Alabama claims," resulting in the Geneva award; the readmission into the Union of all the States that were in rebellion; the fishery dispute with Great Britain, and its settlement in 1878; the Electoral Commission in 1876; General Grant's tour around the world; the universal discussion of the subject of a protective tariff; the Ku Klux organizations in the South and kindred organizations, whose efforts resulted in the exodus from the South of the colored people; passage in 1866 of the "civil rights bill" over the President's veto, etc.

THE COBDEN CLUB.

STILL ROCK, Butler Co., Iowa.
Please state what is the meaning of the Cobden Club. I have seen it stated that General Garfield is in some way connected with it. JAMES DACY.

Answer.—The Cobden Club is a British association which takes its name from Richard Cobden, the great English statesman and economist, who was born in 1804 and died in 1865. Cobden was an advocate of free trade, and among the leading objects of the Cobden Club is the spread of free-trade doctrines. It has some distinguished men among its honorary members who are protectionists. During the last Presidential campaign this club sent thousands of pamphlets to America in the interest of free trade. And

during the present winter the same club has had emissaries in this country promoting principles to which the industrial classes of the United States have shown they were emphatically opposed.

ELECTORAL VOTE OF 1860.

NEWPORT, Ind.
Will you please to inform me the States which cast their electoral votes for Lincoln, Douglas, Breckinridge, and Bell, respectively, in 1860, and the number of electoral votes cast by each State? C. M. PARKS.

Answer.—The following will show the States giving their electoral vote for the several candidates in 1860. It will be noticed that New Jersey split its vote, giving a part to Lincoln and the rest to Douglas:

Lincoln.		Breckinridge.	
California.....	4	Alabama.....	9
Connecticut.....	6	Arkansas.....	4
Illinois.....	11	Delaware.....	3
Indiana.....	13	Florida.....	3
Iowa.....	4	Georgia.....	10
Maine.....	4	Louisiana.....	6
Massachusetts.....	13	Maryland.....	8
Michigan.....	6	Mississippi.....	7
Minnesota.....	4	North Carolina.....	10
New Hampshire....	5	South Carolina.....	8
New Jersey.....	4	Texas.....	4
New York.....	35		
Ohio.....	23	Total.....	72
Oregon.....	3	Bell.	
Pennsylvania.....	27	Kentucky.....	12
Rhode Island.....	4	Tennessee.....	12
Vermont.....	5	Virginia.....	15
Wisconsin.....	5		
Total.....	180	Total.....	39
		Douglas.	
		Missouri.....	9
		New Jersey.....	3
		Total.....	12

CENSUS FACTS.

LUDLOW, Ill.
Please give the population of the five most populous States, of the five largest cities in the United States; also, the population of the ten largest cities in Illinois. E. N. GRAVES.

Answer.—The five States that lead in population are these which follow:

New York.....	5,083,173
Pennsylvania.....	4,282,738
Ohio.....	3,197,794
Illinois.....	3,078,636
Missouri.....	2,169,091

The five most populous cities are these in their order:

New York.....	1,206,577
Philadelphia.....	847,542
Brooklyn.....	554,465
Chicago.....	503,053
Boston.....	363,565

From a list of 168 cities of the United States, compiled at the Census Bureau at Washington, we take the following:

Chicago.....	503,053
Peoria.....	31,708
Quincy.....	27,428
Springfield.....	19,683
Bloomington.....	17,280
Rockford.....	13,088
Aurora.....	12,007
Rock Island.....	11,614
Galesburg.....	11,451
Jacksonville.....	11,009
Elgin.....	10,040

CONGRESSMAN-AT-LARGE.

JESUP, Iowa.
Is there now, or has there been, a Congressman-at-large? If so, please state in what cases he is elected, and how long he serves as such? HAWKEYE.

Answer.—After the taking of the census, once in ten years, an apportionment is made of Representatives in Congress. Each State is divided

into Congressional districts, such districts comprising, as nearly as possible, the number of people that entitles it to a member of Congress, which, under the census of 1870, was 135,239. When the State is divided into districts, and there is an excess of population over and above the number required in those districts to entitle the State to an additional member, another is given. He is called a member-at-large, for the reason given, namely: that he represents the excess of population in the several districts over the number the district is required by law to have.

SEVERAL ELECTION DISPUTES.

NO. 1454 STATE STREET, CHICAGO.
Please answer whether or not Garfield or the Republican party carried the State of New York at the recent election by 10,000 majority.

LAKE LINDON, MICH.

1. R. bets \$10 that the State of New York gives 20,000 majority Republican. H. bets \$10 that it does not. Who wins? 2. What is Garfield's majority in the State of New York?

ONE OF YOUR READERS.

Answer.—Both these may be included in the same reply. We add the vote of the three parties in New York State for 1876, as well as that for 1880, as follows:

Party.	1876.	1880.
Republican.....	389,207	555,544
Democrat.....	521,949	534,511
Greenback.....	1,987	12,373

It will be seen from these figures that, in 1876, the Democratic majority (that is, their vote over the combined vote of the Republican and Greenback parties) was 30,755. In 1880, the Republican vote was 21,033 over the Democratic vote, and the Republican majority (that is, the Republican vote over the Democratic and Greenback vote combined) was 8,660.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

CHICAGO.

1. What is the National Debt of the United States at the present time? 2. What was the National Debt at the close of the war?

F. C. MCKAY.

Answer.—1. The public debt on Jan. 3, was as follows:

Total debt.....	\$2,099,885,096
Total interest.....	21,596,379
Cash in the Treasury.....	222,299,739
Debt less cash in Treasury.....	1,899,181,735
Decrease during December.....	5,699,430
Decrease since June 30, 1880....	42,990,559

2. The public debt at the close of the war, or as soon thereafter as an authentic statement is useful, was as below:

Total outstanding debt Aug. 31, 1865.....	\$2,844,649,626
Deducting cash in Treasury.....	2,756,531,571

BATTLE OF MURFREESBORO.

WABASH, WAYNE CO., ILL.

It is stated in Swinton's School History that in the battle of Murfreesboro or Stone River "the Union army, numbered 47,000, the Confederates 35,000 men." (Note page 258.) I think this is a gross error. Will you please give the strength of both armies; also number of killed, wounded, and missing, according to the best authority.

J. H. PETTIGREW.

Answer.—We quote the following paragraph, which shows how authorities differ: "The battle of Murfreesboro, commonly called that of Stone River, was, in proportion to the numbers engaged, one of the most bloody of the war. Bragg says he had 35,000 men engaged, and that the Union force was about 70,000. Rosecrans puts his force at 43,000, estimating that of the Confederates at 62,000. The Union loss was 1,553 killed, about 7,000

wounded, and 3,000 prisoners. Bragg puts his entire loss at 10,000."

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S IMPEACHMENT.

RIVER VIEW.

1. Will you please give us the names of the men who voted against the impeachment of Andy Johnson, and where they lived at the time? 2. Who is now Secretary of war

C. N. REYNOLDS.

Answer.—1. There were 57 votes in the House for impeachment, all of whom were Republicans. Those voting in the negative were 108 in number, of whom 67 were Republicans and 41 Democrats. There were 22 absent, of whom 18 were Republicans and 4 Democrats. We have not the space to reprint the names of those who voted. It was significant that not a single Democrat voted to impeach. 2. Alexander Ramsey, of Minnesota, is Secretary of War.

HEENAN AND SAYERS.

PIANO, ILL.

In the fight between John C. Heenan and Tom Sayers, which whipped, and which had his arm broken, and how it was broken, and did Sayers' friends say they would shoot Heenan in case he whipped Sayers?

M. W. WHITNEY.

Answer.—From an American authority we quote the following paragraph in regard to Heenan's fight with Sayers: "In April, 1860, Heenan went to England and fought Tom Sayers. Heenan returned to New York in July, and then went back to England in 1861 and fought with King, being again defeated." Sayers had his arm broken. We are unable to state whether Sayers' friends made the threat referred to.

DUTY ON BROADCLOTH—TOM BENTON.

WAYNESVILLE, ILL., NOV. 12, 1880.

1. What were the politics of Colonel Tom Benton? 2. How is the duty on broadcloth computed, by the pound or yard? 3. What is the amount of tariff on one pound of sugar?

MASKEL LEE.

Answer.—1. Democratic, if Thomas H. Benton, long United States Senator from Missouri, is meant. 2. At a compound rate—fifty cents per pound and 35 per cent *ad valorem*. 3. Different amounts, according to grade. Sugar, Dutch standard in color. All not above No. 7, 13½ cents plus 25 per cent; above No. 7, and not above No. 10, 2 cents plus 25 per cent; above No. 10, and not above No. 13, 2½ cents plus 25 per cent; above No. 13, and not above No. 16, 2½ cents and 25 per cent; above No. 16, and not above No. 20, 3¼ cents plus 25 per cent; above No. 20, and all refined, loaf, crushed, powdered, and granulated, 4 cents plus 25 per cent. These several duties, varying and increasing with grade, refer to the pound as the unit of computation.

LIST OF DUTABLE ARTICLES.

POTOMAC, ILL., NOV. 19, 1880.

1. Where can one obtain a list of the articles on which the United States pays duty? 2. Where can one obtain a copy of the book called "The Sophisms of Protection?"

CHAS. JOHNSON.

Answer.—1. Heyl's "Customs Duties" contains such a list, alphabetically arranged, with the amount of duty opposite each distinct article, together with references to the various tariff laws in force; also many Treasury decisions of mooted points, and much other valuable information. This book is used by the Custom House officials throughout the United States. Its cost is \$3, and it may be had by applying to Charles H. Ham, General Appraiser, Custom House, Chicago. 2. May be had of H. C. Baird & Co., 810 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa. The price by

mail is not more than \$1.50, perhaps only \$1.25.

JEFF DAVIS' BONDSMEN.

HOOPER'S RUN, Pa.

1. Please state who Jeff. Davis' bail was, if any, and what was the amount of the surety? 2. What Generals were superior to Hancock in command at the battle of Gettysburg? J. H. C.

Answer.—1. The bail amounted to \$100,000, and among those who went on the bond were Gerrit Smith, Horace Greeley, John Minor Botts, and Cornelius Vanderbilt. 2. General Meade commanded the Union army, and there were several other officers who ranked General Hancock in that engagement.

WHALE'S THROATS.

FORT SCOTT, Kan.

Will you please answer this question, and settle a dispute: What is the largest object a whale can swallow? READER.

Answer.—The gullet of certain sperm whales is capable of swallowing an object as large as a man. (See Appleton's American Encyclopedia.) Other whales have very small throats, and their "food consists only of the smallest of the swimming mollusca, a herring being the largest fish they can swallow." (See Zell's.)

PANTHER AND DEER.

BROWN'S MILLS, Cook Co., Ill.

Please give a description of the Rocky Mountain lion and the black-tailed deer. MRS. H. H. KLEINMAN.

Answer.—The panther, catamount, cougar, or puma, as it is variously known, has a tawny, brownish-yellow color above, and a dingy white below. It has a body generally about four and one-half feet long, although some have been taken that were much larger. It is the largest of the American cats, except the jaguar. It preys upon deer, sheep, and smaller quadrupeds, and has been known to attack and kill human beings. The black-tailed, or California deer, is a little larger than the common deer, but shorter and stouter in form. The horns are twice forked; the first fork being ten inches or so from the base, and the antlers somewhat similar to those of the European stag. The ears are of moderate size, and the head shorter and the nose broader than in some of the other kinds of deer. The hoofs are narrow and pointed, and the tail short and bushy. The general color is reddish brown above and white beneath, the chest blackish brown, which encircles the shoulder like a collar; the tail is dark brown, becoming black at the top and white below. The flesh is tender and of excellent flavor. It is very swift, and is less graceful than the common deer. It is found in the Rocky Mountains and from California northward.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

SUNBEAM, Ill.

Do the Chinese emigrate to the United States, or are they imported as slaves? If so, who imports them, and who holds them as slaves? Explain the Burlingame treaty. R. H. S.

Answer.—It was at one time the practice to bring Chinese to this country so that they were practically slaves, but the pernicious system was broken up by the United States. The Burlingame treaty provided, in general, that the privileges enjoyed by Western nations under the principles of international law—the right of eminent domain, of appointing consuls to the ports of the United States, and the power of the government to grant or withhold

commercial privileges and immunities at their own discretion, subject to treaty—should be secured to China, the empire of China undertaking to observe the corresponding obligations prescribed by international law toward other peoples. Special provisions were also made, stipulating for the entire liberty of conscience and worship for Americans in China and for Chinese in America; for joint efforts against the coolie trade; for the enjoyment by Chinese in America and Americans in China of all rights in respect to travel and residence accorded to citizens of the most favored nation; for similar reciprocal rights in the matter of public educational institutions of the two countries, and for the right of establishing schools by citizens of either country in the other. The concluding article disclaims on the part of the United States the right of interference with the domestic administration of China in the matter of railroads, telegraphs, and internal improvements, but agrees that the United States will furnish assistance in these points on proper conditions when requested by the Chinese Government.

ROBERT DALE OWEN.

PERRYVILLE, Ind.

Please give a short sketch of Robert D. Owen. Has he renounced his ultra-mundane theory? If so, why? SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Robert Dale Owen was born at Glasgow, Scotland, Nov. 1, 1801, and was the son of Robert Owen, an English social reformer, who married the daughter of David Dale, a Glasgow manufacturer, and proprietor of a large cotton factory at New Lanark, Scotland. Robert Dale came to America in 1826, and was for a time associated with the well-known Fanny Wright, afterwards Madame Darusmont, in the editorial management of the *Free Enquirer*, a weekly radical newspaper, which was published at New York. Owen also assisted in the socialist experiment at New Harmony, Indiana. He was elected three times successively to the Indiana Legislature, and was while there active in securing the passage of measures for popular education and the giving of property rights to woman. In 1843 he was elected to Congress, and was re-elected in 1845. In 1849 he was President of the Indiana Constitutional Convention, and in 1853 he was sent by President Pierce as Minister to Naples. He was a warm advocate of emancipation when the slavery war broke out. He was a prolific writer, publishing several books, including a novel, a drama, an autobiography, and several volumes of discussion and controversy. Like his father, he was a Spiritualist, and wrote several books on that subject. Mr. Owen died in the year 1877.

HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON'S LIFE.

BARREVILLE, McHenry Co., Ill.

Please give a sketch of Herschel V. Johnson's life and political views during and since the rebellion. S. S. SHEPARD.

Answer.—Herschel V. Johnson was a native of Georgia, having been born Sept. 18, 1812, in Burke County, in that State. At the age of 22 he graduated from the State University, and then went into the profession of law. In the year 1840 he entered politics as a Jeffersonian Democrat. He was a Presidential elector on the State Demo-

orat ticket in the 1844, and four years after was appointed to fill a vacancy in the United States Senate, and in 1849 was elected a Judge of the Superior Court. He was elected Governor of the State in 1853, and in 1855 he was re-elected to the same office. In the great Presidential struggle of 1860 he ran for Vice President with Stephen A. Douglas, and, as the world knows, was defeated. Mr. Johnson was in the State secession convention in 1861, and took an active part against the policy adopted by that body. When the vote was taken on secession he voted against it, but afterward, when it was passed by a majority of the convention, he decided to go with his State, and sustain her in the course she had adopted. In the year 1863 he was elected to the Confederate States Senate, where he remained until the close of the war. He was President of the State Constitutional Convention in 1865, and in 1873, when the disabilities were removed, he was placed on the circuit bench for a term of eight years. After the war he was chosen a United States Senator from Georgia, but he was not permitted to enter on the duties of his office, his seat having been denied him by the reconstruction acts of Congress.

HOW PAPER IS GLAZED.

DE KALB, De Kalb Co., Ill.
JOHN MARKS.

Answer.—Hot pressing and glazing are done by passing the sheets of paper through hot and polished iron rollers.

HOW CYPRUS WAS ACQUIRED.

MENOMINEE, Mich.
R. UNDERWOOD.

Answer.—A treaty was signed June 4, 1878, between the British Government and that of the Ottoman Empire, entitled "Convention of Defensive Alliance Between Great Britain and Turkey," when it was settled that Asiatic Turkey should be placed under British protection, to be defended, if necessary, "by force of arms" against any invader; and that "in return the Sultan promises to England to introduce necessary reforms, to be agreed upon between the two powers, into the government, and for the protection of the Christian and other subjects of the Porte in these territories; and, in order to allow England to make necessary provision for executing her engagement, his Imperial Majesty the Sultan further consents to assign the island of Cyprus to be occupied and administered by England."

ROBERT C. SANDS.

CAPRON, Boone Co., Ill.
WM. SANDS.

Answer.—Robert Charles Sands was the son of Comfort Sands, who was born Feb. 26, 1748, and died at Hoboken, Sept. 22, 1834. Comfort was a merchant and an active revolutionary patriot, a member of the New York Constitutional Convention of 1777, and for many years a member of the State Legislature. His son Robert C. was born at Flatbush, L. I., May 11, 1799, and died

at Hoboken, N. J., Dec. 17, 1832. He studied law, and in 1820 was admitted to practice, but afterward devoted himself exclusively to literature. While yet in his "teens," he published several works, essays, etc. In 1822 he was one of the editors of the *Atlantic Magazine*, and later of the *New York Review*. One of his best and longest poems, "The Dream of the Princess Papautzin," was contributed to "The Talisman," which is described as "an excellent specimen of fine writing and professional execution, but discouraged for want of patronage." From the year 1827 to his death he was assistant editor of the *New York Commercial Advertiser*. About a week before he passed away, his last poem, "The Dead of 1832," was published in the *Advertiser*. He was an unusually promising young man. He composed, in conjunction with his friend, the Rev. James Wallis Eastburn, the poem "Yamoyden," which was published in *New York* in 1820. The authorities at hand do not give any additional facts as to his ancestry.

WHY THREAD IS NUMBERED.

IOWA CITY, Iowa.
R. B.

Answer.—The numbers express the number of hanks which are required to weigh a pound. The finest spinning rarely exceeds 300 hanks to the pound, while the coarsest weighs about a half pound to the hank, but the common qualities, from which thread is made, runs from ten to forty to the pound.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

FOUNTAIN, Fillmore Co., Minn.
EDITH HANLEY.

Answer.—1. We believe it does. 2. Territories have that right and have exercised it. States have exercised it so far as giving women the right to vote at school elections. Some advanced advocates of woman suffrage claim that women can vote under the provisions of the fifteenth amendment, and of this class is Miss Susan B. Anthony. Others, however, hold that it will require another amendment to the Constitution to give woman the right of franchise.

LUNDY'S LANE—DR. WEBSTER.

I. N. HOLCOMB.

Answer.—1. The battle of Lundy's Lane was fought July 25, 1814. 2. Dr. Joseph White Webster was professor of chemistry and mineralogy in the Medical School in Boston, connected with Harvard University. He was born at Boston, May 20, 1793, and was hanged Aug. 30, 1850, for the murder of Dr. George Parkman. The latter called at the college to collect a debt of long standing from Webster, who, irritated by the language of Dr. Parkman, struck him a fatal blow, and then endeavored to conceal the body.

CRYOLITE.

TABLE ROCK, Neb.
E. E. B.

Answer.—Cryolite is a snow-white mineral, partially transparent, of vitreous luster and of

brittle texture. It is so named from its fusibility in the flames of a candle. It is a compound of sodium, fluorine, and aluminum, and is used for the preparation of the metal aluminum. It occurs in veins in gneiss with pyrites and galena; and has been found in Western Greenland and at Miyask in the Ural. In the United States it is extensively employed in the manufacture of a white porcelain glass, and also in the preparation of caustic soda, and thousands of tons are annually imported into this country.

SALT RIVER—PASSION CROSS.

PAW PAW, Lee County, Ill.

1. Please tell me what originated the saying: "Gone up Salt River." 2. Monteith's Comprehensive Geography says (page 91) the climate of Southern Europe was formerly not so warm as now. Why? 3. What is a "passion cross"? I read of them being used in the conclave decorations.

OLD MAID.

Answer.—1. Salt River is an imaginary river up which defeated politicians and others are said to be sent when they are to retire from active stirring scenes of public life. The usual remark, "Gone up Salt River," or "Salt Creek," had its origin in the fact that there is a small stream of that name in the State of Kentucky, the passage of which is made difficult and laborious by the winding course of the creek and by the numerous bars and shallows by which it is dotted. The application of the phrase is to the unfortunate individual who has to navigate his boat up the stream; in its every-day meaning, however, it describes those who are rowed up that far-famed streamlet. 2. The explanation is probably found in the fact that certain parts of Southern Europe, which were, in the early centuries of this era, well wooded, and so attracted rain, are now treeless and very dry. 3. A "passion cross" is of the kind on which Christ was crucified, to distinguish it from the Greek and other crosses.

THE TAI-PING REBELLION.

CHICAGO.
Will you please give an account of the people in China called the Tai-Pings?
OTTO RYERSON.

Answer.—There are several cities in China of the name of Tai-Ping, or Taiping. One is the capital of a department, Province of Ngan-Hoei, on the Yang-tse-kiang, about thirty miles southwest of Nanking. Another is the capital of a department, province of Quang-see. The idea of the people probably came from the fact that a great rebellion, known as the Tai-ping rebellion, broke out in Southern China in 1850. There were various reasons for this revolutionary movement, among which were the failure of the Imperial government to maintain its prestige against the British in the war of 1840-42, and the repeated failures of crops in the districts where the rebellion originated. The insurgents were led by Hung-Siu-tsuen, and for some years, owing to the lack of vigor and indiscretion of the Imperialists, held out against their opponents. This rebellion lasted about fourteen years.

THE FRIGATE CONSTITUTION.

SHEBOYGAN, Wis.

1. When was the United States ship Constitution cut down to a frigate, and where was her first battle fought? 2. Also the date of the destruction of the old Hancock residence on Beacon street, Boston? 3. What is the date of Lee's surrender to General Grant? X.

Answer.—The old Constitution was one of the

six frigates of which Congress authorized the building, on March 27, 1794. The first great fight was fought by the Constitution in the war of 1812, when that war vessel took the British frigate Guerriere. We never heard that the old Constitution was "cut down to a frigate." 2. The old Hancock house was taken down in 1863. 3. General Lee surrendered to General Grant April 9, 1865.

DR. HOLLAND—KING PHILIP'S BODY.

ALTA, Iowa.

1. Please give the address of Dr. J. G. Holland, the author. 2. When King Philip was shot on Mount Hope what disposal was made of his body?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. Dr. Holland's address was *Scribner's Monthly*, New York. 2. When King Philip was deserted by all, he was hunted from place to place, and at last took refuge at Mount Hope, where he was attacked by a party under Captain Church, and in attempting to escape he was killed by an Indian. His body was cut in quarters and his head sent to Plymouth, where it was exposed on a gibbet for twenty years.

JOHN BROWN'S "CRIME."

INGLEWOOD, Cook Co., Ill.

What was the crime for which John Brown was convicted and hanged?

A. D. STERLING.

Answer.—John Brown and his companions were indicted "for conspiring with negroes to produce insurrection, for treason against the commonwealth of Virginia, and for murder."

SEVERAL IRISH QUESTIONS.

WHEATON, DuPage Co., Ill.

1. Are the Irish tenantry treated with less fairness than English tenants? 2. Is Ireland an conquered province of the British Government, or was its government united with that of England as that of Scotland was? 3. When and how was Ireland brought under the power of the British Government?

ANNIE M. PALMER.

Answer.—1. It is as difficult to speak of the Irish and English tenants in one statement, as to compare a physician with a metaphysician. And a question like the above can scarcely be answered categorically. This may be said of the two classes, that the Irish tenantry fare much worse than their English friends. 2 and 3. In the year 1155, Pope Adrian IV. authorized Henry II. of England, to take possession of Ireland, on condition of paying an annual tribute. In 1172 Henry made his first descent on Ireland, receiving the homage of a number of the chiefs, and authorized certain Norman adventurers to take possession of the entire island in his behalf. These strangers in the thirteenth century had firmly established themselves, and their descendants adopted the language of the people, becoming merged at last with the natives. A Parliament in Dublin in 1537 passed an act of supremacy, declaring Henry VIII. supreme head of the church, and making it treason to refuse the oath of supremacy. Henry also received the title "King of Ireland." Then followed domestic wars and troubles with England till Cromwell appeared on the scene, and, says an historian, "For the first time English supremacy might be said to be established, and four-fifths of the whole soil was confiscated." But the changing fortunes of the gallant but unfortunate Irish need not be traced here. For 100 years after the battles of the Boyne and Aghrim the Catholics were sorely prosecuted. In 1782 Henry Grattan, backed by a strong volunteer

force, gathered to repel an expected French invasion, achieved the independence of the Irish Parliament by the repeal of acts which had shorn it of its integrity. The Catholics, however, had still cause to sue for "emancipation," meaning thereby community of privileges, and they were joined by the Protestants, who also had their grievances. In 1791 Theobald Wolfe Tone founded the first Society of United Irishmen, with the object of uniting Protestants and Catholics, and thus break the connection. This society, forced to become secret, was finally compelled to have recourse to arms by the government, and martial law was proclaimed all over Ireland in 1798. Active civil war lasted less than five months, England employing 137,000 men, and losing 20,000, while the Irish loss was 50,000; the cost of the war was variously estimated at from \$150,000,000 to \$250,000,000. Of the leaders of the United Irishmen, fully two-thirds were Protestants and Presbyterians. A bill of amnesty was passed in 1799, and the government took advantage of the rebellion to hasten the legislative union of Ireland and England, which, despite the eloquent opposition of Grattan and his party, went into effect Jan. 1, 1801. The articles of the union were: That the two islands be called the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; the succession to the throne to continue as existing—limited; the kingdom to be represented by one Parliament; that Ireland be represented in the House of Lords by 28 temporal peers elected for life from the Irish nobility, and in the House of Commons by 100 representatives; that the State churches of the two islands be united, their doctrines and discipline being one; that the population of the two countries be on the same footing as regarded manufacturing, trading, and commercial privileges; that the expenditures be in the proportion of Britain 15 to Ireland 2 for 20 years, afterward to be regulated by Parliament; and that the existing laws and courts be continued, excepting that appeals from the Irish Chancery be to the British House of Lords.

THE POET RICHARD SAVAGE.

Ida, Republic Co., Kan.

Macaulay, in his *History of England*, volume second, page 149, says: "Richard Savage, Lord Colchester, son and heir of the Earl Rivers, and father, by a lawless amour, of that unhappy poet whose misdeeds and misfortunes form one of the darkest portions of literary history," etc. Please give the name of the unhappy poet and a short sketch of his life.

MARIAN ANDREWS.

Answer.—Richard Savage, the English poet, was born at London in 1698 and died at Bath in 1743. He was the natural son of the Countess of Macclesfield by Earl Rivers. He was early an object of aversion to his mother, who placed him with an old and poor woman, with directions that he should be brought up in utter ignorance of his birth. Savage was apprenticed to a shoemaker, when the woman with whom he been living suddenly died, and some letters of the mother of the Countess of Macclesfield were found and revealed to him his parentage. From that time he endeavored to obtain the recognition of his mother, but his efforts were unavailing, for the Countess claimed that

her child died while very young, and that therefore Savage was an impostor. At the age of 25 he became an author, and produced a tragedy, "Sir Thomas Overbury," which brought him £200, and several other publications increased his reputation. In a drunken brawl he killed a man in 1727, for which he was tried and condemned to death, but was pardoned by the intervention of the Countess of Hertford with Queen Caroline, despite the fact that his mother labored to have the sentence carried out on the ground that he had once attempted her own life. To stop any further scandal, Lord Tyrconnel became his patron, and, receiving him to his house, allowed him £200 a year; but Savage soon quarreled with his benefactor, and was once more turned adrift. By the death of Queen Caroline he lost a pension of £50, and was left to be cared for by his friends, whom he was alienating. At last he was induced to retire to Wales, where Pope and others contributed to his support. When he had been there a while he started to London with a tragedy, and while passing through Bath was arrested for debt, and died in the debtors' prison of that place.

THE SARGASSO SEA.

FULDA, Minn.

Please give a description of what is known as the Sargasso Sea. I have heard and read many "sailor yarns" respecting it, but never considered them very reliable.

MARY M. KOEHL.

Answer.—A very remarkable feature of ocean vegetation is the Sargasso Sea. This name is commonly used to designate a region of the Atlantic covered by the peculiar floating sea weed, either in tangled masses of considerable extent or simply scattered twigs. In the days of Columbus this was noticed, as the following from Knight's life of the great discoverer shows: "Next day a calm ensued. Then light breezes came and went. As the caravels advanced slowly they encountered great masses of sea weed, for they had arrived at the Mar de Sargasso, where, over an extent of surface which Humboldt declares to be more than seven times the area of France, the ocean plain is thickly covered with floating verdure, and sometimes resembles a vast undulating meadow. At first the greater abundance of sea-weed was noticed with delight, as a sign that the land was not far away. Then fears began to be felt lest, perchance, the only land might be found to be those hidden ledges and drowned islands of which fearful tales were told." It was at one time supposed that this enormous mass of Gulf-weed in the Sargasso Sea originally grew on the Bahama and Florida shores, and was torn thence by the powerful current of the Gulf Stream; but it seems certain that if such was its original source, the Gulf-weed now lives and propagates while freely floating on the ocean surface, having become adapted by various modifications to its present mode of existence. The principal bank has recently been placed between longitude 29 and 45 degrees west, and latitude 21 and 33 north, with smaller scattered masses extending several degrees beyond these limits on all sides. The smaller bank has not been so clearly de-

finer, the denser portion forming a band extending to the northeast of Porto Rico and to the latitude of Bermuda. A Sargasso sea, which bears the same relations to the North Pacific currents that the one in the Atlantic does to the Gulf Stream, is found northward of the Sandwich Islands, and is said to occupy a still larger space.

STANLEY MATTHEWS AND JOHN SHERMAN.

^{SUSSEX.}
1. Will you please state who Stanley Matthews is? Has he ever been a Senator? 2. How many times has John Sherman been elected to the United States Senate? Was he called from the Senate to be Secretary of the Treasury.
H. R. CAMPBELL.

Answer.—1. Stanley Matthews was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, July 21, 1824, and after receiving an academic education graduated from Kenyon College in 1840. He studied law, and after being admitted to the bar practiced at Cincinnati. In 1851 he was elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, which he resigned in 1853, and entered the State Senate the same year. In 1858 he was appointed United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, which he resigned in 1861, and was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel in the Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and became Colonel of the Fifty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry in November of the same year. Judge Matthews was again elected Judge of the Superior Court of Cincinnati in April, 1863, and resigned in 1864, and was in the fall of that year a Presidential elector on the Lincoln and Johnson ticket, and also on the Grant and Colfax ticket in 1868. In 1876 Judge Matthews was the Republican candidate for Congress in the Second District, against H. B. Banning, who was returned elected by 75 votes. On March 20, 1877, he was elected United States Senator, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Sherman, who became Secretary of the Treasury. 2. John Sherman was elected and took his seat as United States Senator in 1861, re-elected in 1866, again re-elected in 1872, and is now, for the fourth time, returned by Ohio to the Senate.

THE VAMPIRE.

1. Father and myself differed in relation to the vampire bat and agreed to leave it to you. Is there any such thing as a "vampire bat" that actually sucks the life-blood out of human beings and animals while asleep, at the same time fanning them with its wings to increase the slumber, or is it a myth? 2. Also what is the reason that here in this county (Adams) all of our principal rainstorms come from the Northwest?
D. G. PRICE.

Answer.—1. Travelers who delight in the marvellous have related some remarkable stories of the vampire bat, which, like a snow-bail, have gained in proportions as they were rolled on by one and another. The vampire bat is a large South American species whose natural food is insects, but, if pressed by hunger, it will suck the blood of poultry, cattle, and even of man; the blood is obtained entirely by suction from the capillary vessels, and not through any wounds made by the teeth. The authority that supplies this information adds, that the stories told by travelers are much exaggerated, as the animal is harmless and not at all feared by the natives. Another authority—Charles W. Greene—states that the vampires are

famous for their habit of fastening upon sleeping animals and men for the purpose of sucking their blood. Nothing whatever is said about these bats fanning their victims with their wings to increase their sleep. 2. Adams County, Ill., belongs to a storm district which embraces the larger part of the Upper Mississippi, including the most of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, South-eastern Nebraska, Upper Missouri, and which crosses Illinois and extends to the Wabash River in Indiana. This region is generally subject to the same atmospheric changes, and extending as it does to the northwest, gives rise to probably most of the storms which visit Adams County. This, at least, is the explanation given by Professor Cleveland Abbe.

OLE BULL'S LIFE AND DEATH.

^{ELY, IOWA.}
Please give a biographical sketch of the life and travels of Ole Bull and some particulars of his skill in playing the violin: also, his nativity, age, and the circumstances of his death, etc.
L. M. HEALY.

Answer.—The life and success of the great Norwegian violinist were peculiarly the experiences of children of genius. His early life was one of longing and struggle for better things. He was born at Bergen in the year 1810, and, when just entering his teens, was acknowledged by those who knew him to be possessed of unusual talents as a musician. After studying for a time under the great composer Spohr, he found his way to Paris, where he struggled between art and poverty, and was on the verge of despair when a helping hand was extended to him by a patron whose kindly offices raised the burdens won't had loaded him with, and he was enabled to continue his studies. Not long after he was thus relieved at the French capital he gave a concert, the proceeds of which furnished him the means of traveling in the home of classic music, Italy. While in the latter land he gave performances which were received cordially, enthusiastically. His reputation was now made, and his name became so well known that his career was a triumph when he afterward visited Paris, London, and other European metropolitan centers. In the year 1845 he came to America, where he bought 120,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, where he founded a colony and called it Oleana. The project was, however, unsuccessful, and was finally abandoned. Ole Bull, in the later years of his life, married a young lady of Madison, Wis. He died Aug. 18, 1880.

THE SIZE OF BOOKS.

^{GRAYVILLE, ILL.}
What is the standard size, or sizes, of sheets of paper? When referring to books we say "4to," "8vo," "12mo," etc. Are these sizes in all cases the same?
ROSS M. LANTERNMAN.

Answer.—We quote the following from W. Blades, a good authority on the subject: Paper-molds have fixed conventional sizes; but since the introduction of machines for making paper, and the consequent disuse of molds, makers work more by a given number of inches than by names of sizes. Consequently the correct description of book sizes has become impossible, and the trade describe the new by the names of the old size they most resemble. To

determine the real size of a bound book, find the signature (a letter or figure at the bottom of the page) and count the leaves (not pages) to the next. A further test is the binder's thread in the middle of the sheet; the number of leaves from each thread to the next will give the same result. But these rules do not apply to old black-letter books and those of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, in which the most satisfactory test is the water mark. The folio and quarto sizes, originally adopted from the largeness of the types in the infancy of printing, are now generally restricted to works of bulk, as dictionaries and other books of reference. The size of a printed book is named from the dimensions of the paper, and the number of leaves into which it is folded. A folio is a book made of sheets of paper each folded once; a folio volume is one formed of sheets folded so as to make two leaves. A quarto is a book of a square, or nearly a square form, corresponding to that formerly made by folding a sheet twice. An octavo is composed of sheets folded so as to make eight leaves, indicated usually 8vo.

ST. AMBROSE AND EMPEROR THEODOSIUS.

BROWN'S CORNER, IND.
Why did St. Ambrose forbid the Emperor Theodosius from entering the Milan Cathedral, and in what year?

W. D.
Answer.—Theodosius the Great, when his brother-in-law, Valentinian, was dethroned in Italy, marched against Maximus, who had wrought his wife's brother the injury which robbed him of his authority. Theodosius defeated Maximus, and put him to death, and then entered Rome in triumph in June, 389. The people of Thessalonica having for a slight cause murdered Botheric and other principal men of the little garrison, Theodosius sent an army of barbarians, who, when the inhabitants were assembled by invitation at the circus, massacred them to the number of many thousands. For this St. Ambrose forbade Theodosius to enter a church in Milan until he had done public penance.

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE."

BANGOR, VAN BUREN CO., MICH.
What was it that Lincoln said, and where and when, "With malice toward none, with charity to all." The rest I have forgotten.

W. H. NELSON.
Answer.—The sentence is from Lincoln's second inaugural, March 4, 1865, only a few weeks before he was assassinated, and is as follows: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the Nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widows and orphans, to do all which may actuate and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

CHICAGO.
Please give a brief account of the Chicago Board of Trade; what it is for, and what does it do?

J. WEBSTER SCOTT.
Answer.—The Board of Trade in Chicago, like all boards of trade in the United States and Canada, is a voluntary association of business men, which is organized to promote financial and commercial

interests of the city, and to consider such questions with regard to railway and water communication, supply and demand, and other questions relating to the general subject of trade.

SOURCES OF REVENUE.

LEEBOURG, IND.
What is the principal source of revenue for England, France, and Germany?

W. D. WOOD.
Answer.—The principal sources of revenue of Great Britain are excise, customs, stamps, post-office, income tax, and land tax. The imperial revenue of Germany comes from customs and excise duties, profits of posts and telegraphs, state railways, stamp duties, and the contributions of states to revenue. In France there are direct taxes, produce of domains and forests, registration duties and stamps, customs, posts, produce of telegraphs, tax on personal property, revenue of Algeria, etc.

ELECTORS CHOSEN BY STATES.

CISCO, ILL.
If a State gives a Republican majority, is not the whole number of Republican electors elected without regard to some districts that may go Democratic? Some say that there may be some Republican and some Democratic electors elected from the same State, if so, in what way is it done?

J. B. IRWIN.
Answer.—Electors are elected by States, not by districts. If one or more electors run behind their ticket, for some cause or another, and certain electors on the opposition ticket run ahead of their ticket, they would still be electors voted for by the entire State; and those receiving the largest number of votes would be chosen.

WHAT "THE INTER OCEAN" POSTAGE COSTS.

SANDWICH, ILL.
Will you please state the largest amount of postage ever paid by THE INTER OCEAN on any one weekly issue?

W. F. O.
Answer.—The largest amount of money paid for postage for a single issue of THE WEEKLY INTER OCEAN was \$326.12. That statement needs no comment. The sum gives our readers some idea of the extent of the circulation of our weekly edition, for these figures simply apply to one issue of THE WEEKLY INTER OCEAN.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN ILLINOIS.

SUNNY HILL, ILL.
Is capital punishment allowed by law in the State of Illinois?

J. D. WILSON.
Answer.—Capital punishment is still in force—except when juries and counsel defeat the law.

LARGEST STATE REPUBLICAN VOTE.

BROOKLYN, WIS.
Will you please state which State cast the most Republican votes for President.

N. S. HOOK.
Answer.—New York cast the largest Republican vote last fall—555,544.

LARGEST LUMBER MARKET.

BELMONT, LEWIS AND CLARK CO., M. T.
Please state the city having the largest lumber market.

GEORGE R. WOODWARD.
Answer.—Chicago is the largest lumber market in the world.

SUNDAY AND SABBATH.

FOREST CITY, IOWA.
1. How long has the Seventh Day Adventist Church been established? 2. What difference is there between Sabbath and Sunday? 3. Was the Sabbath ever changed; if so, when, and by whom?

A. L. ABBOTT.
Answer.—These inquiries cover three of ten questions which are asked concerning the general subject of the Sabbath. We reply in general to the queries, thus giving what information may be sought in the smallest space. 1. The Seventh

Day Adventists originated in 1844. Their headquarters are at Battle Creek, Mich., where they have a large and flourishing book establishment. 2. The Sunday is of heathen origin, and means the "day of the sun," or "sacred to the god of the sun." It does not occur in the Bible, but is now in common use for the first day of the week, which has taken the place of the Jewish Sabbath, and should be properly called the Lord's day, as the day of the resurrection of Christ. These are Dr. Schaff's remarks on Sunday. The Sabbath was the name of the seventh day of the week among the Hebrews, dedicated to an entire cessation from worldly labor; it began on Friday evening, and extended to the evening following. The great majority of the Christian churches celebrate the first day of the week, Sunday, instead of the seventh (Sabbath). From the same Biblical authority quoted above we learn that there is the fullest warrant for the change. Upon the first day of the week Christ arose from the dead. We find the disciples, before the ascension, assembled on that day, and Christ appeared to them. According to tradition, which is confirmed by every probability, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost was on Sunday. Paul preached at Troas on the first day of the week, which was evidently among those Christians the day of religious service. The same apostle tells the Corinthian Christians that every one is to lay by him in store upon the first day of the week as he is prospered. John on Patmos saw the opened door of heaven upon the Lord's day, as he called it. From the times of the apostles, therefore, the first day of the week was kept sacred by Christians in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ, and it is invariably designated as the Lord's day by the Fathers of the primitive church up to the edict of Constantine, when the name Sunday became common.

HENRY M. STANLEY.

Where, at present, is Stanley, of Africa fame? Give a short sketch of him.

HARTLAND, Wis.
of Africa fame?
A. P. HARLING.

Answer.—Stanley is now traveling in Africa. He was born near Denbigh, Wales, in the year 1840, and his original name was John Rowlands. When only 3 years old he was sent to the poorhouse at St. Asaph, where he remained for ten years, receiving a good education. After teaching school a year in Flintshire, he shipped at Liverpool as a cabin-boy on a vessel bound for New Orleans, where he found employment with a merchant named Stanley, who adopted him, and gave him the name by which he is now known the world over. When the slavery war came, Stanley entered the secession army, was taken prisoner, volunteered in the United States navy, and became an acting ensign on the iron-clad Ticonderoga. When the war ended, he traveled in Turkey and Asia Minor, and in 1866 visited his native land. In the year 1868 he accompanied the British expedition to Abyssinia as correspondent of the *New York Herald*, and in 1869 went to Spain in the same capacity. In October of the same year he was commis-

sioned by Mr. James Gordon Bennett to find Dr. Livingstone. He attended the opening of the Suez Canal, and visited Constantinople, Palestine, the Crimea, the Valley of the Euphrates, Persia and India, and sailed from Bombay Oct. 12, 1870, arriving at Zanzibar Jan. 6, 1871, and starting for the interior of Africa March 21 with 192 followers. Mr. Stanley found Dr. Livingstone at Ujiji, on Lake Tanganyika, on Nov. 10, explored the northern part of the lake, and began his return journey March 14, 1872, arriving in England late in July, when he was received with unusual honors by royalty, by distinguished individuals, and by associations and societies. After the death of Livingstone, he was sent to Africa by the *New York Herald* and the *London Telegraph*, to explore the lake region of equatorial Africa, and was gone about two years. On his return he was honored in every large city of Europe through which he passed on his way to Great Britain, and he is once more on a tour of discovery.

ARTESIAN WELLS.

HOPEKINTON, IOWA.
Please explain what artesian wells are, and how they are dug. How deep is the one at St. Louis.

F. H. WYRICK.

Answer.—Small holes are sunk in the earth, and through these water, struck at different depths, rises to the surface. The water thus brought up comes from underground streams or reservoirs. To have such a flow, it is evident that the sources of the water must be in some elevated lands; it is confined in a channel, formed of the strata of rocks it passes between, leading from the original springs to the outlet. The artesian well received its name from Artois, in France, which is the ancient Artesium of the Latins, where wells of this sort have long been in use. Sometimes it happens that the head of water is at so high an elevation that the column at its outlet bursts like a fountain from the ground. The manner of sinking a bore for artesian water varies with the depth and with the nature of the materials to be penetrated. In the surface-soil stratum or other loose, alluvial deposits, pipes of wood or iron are very commonly driven down by means of a pile-driver. When the material is of a more resisting character and greater depth has to be attained, the soil-pipe, whether driven in or set into a hole previously bored by means of an earth-auger, serves to prevent the earth falling in, and as a guide to insure the verticality of the bore, which is of great importance. There are several deep wells at St. Louis, that at the Insane Asylum being 3,843 feet.

CITIZENS ABROAD—THE MOON—USURY.

DAKOTA, ILL.
1. How far and under what circumstances is a citizen of the United States, traveling in foreign countries amenable to, and under the protection of, the United States Government? 2. What causes the apparent motion of the moon northward and southward? Please explain the theory. 3. How is usury punished in Illinois? F. P.

Answer.—1. The citizen of the United States who travels abroad is assured of the support of his own government, provided his mission is a peaceful one and the countries in which he is

journeying are at peace with this Nation. As to his being amenable to the laws of the United States depends on whether the proper treaties exist between this government and the one within whose confines he is traveling. The question is a broad one and it is difficult to give a general definition where a particular case may be involved. 2. The moon crosses the meridian at different altitudes at different seasons of the year, and accordingly is said to run sometimes high and sometimes low. The full moon, for example, will appear much farther in the south when on the meridian at one period of the year than at another. When the sun is in the part of the ecliptic south of the equator, the earth—and of course the moon, which always keeps near to the earth—is in the part north of the equator. At such times, therefore, the new moons, which are always seen in the part of the heavens where the sun is, will run far south, while the full moons, which are always in the opposite part of the heavens from the sun, will run high. Such is the case during the winter months, but in the summer, when the sun is toward the northern tropic and the earth toward the southern, the new moons run high and the full moons low. This arrangement gives us great advantage in respect to the amount of light received from the moon, since the full moon is longest above the horizon during the long nights of winter, when her presence is most needed. 3. The penalty for contracting for more than 8 per cent in Illinois is the loss of all interest, and only the principal sum due is recoverable.

SOME OF THE WORLD'S WONDERS.

NO. 164 WASHINGTON STREET, CHICAGO.

Please state what the "Hanging Gardens of Babylon" and "Palace of Cyrus" were? also, why the Pharos of Egypt is sometimes classed among the seven wonders of the world? J. T. Besson.

Answer.—The famous hanging gardens were built, according to some writers, by Nebuchadnezzar to gratify his wife Amyitis, a native of Media, who longed for something in that flat country to remind her of her mountain home. These gardens consisted of an artificial hill 400 feet on each side, rising by successive terraces to a height which overtopped the walls of the city. The terraces themselves were formed of a succession of piers, the tops of which were covered by flat stones sixteen feet long and four feet wide. Upon these were spread beds of matting, then a thick layer of bitumen, covered with sheets of lead. Upon this solid pavement earth was heaped, some of the piles being hollow, so as to afford depth for the roots of the largest trees. Water was drawn from the river to irrigate these gardens, which thus appeared like a hill covered with verdure. Pharos was the ancient name of a small island off the coast of Egypt, not far from the ancient Alexandria, and connected with the mainland by a mole. It was famous for its lighthouse. The building was the frustum of a square pyramid surrounded by a large base, the precise dimensions of which are not known. It was commenced by the first Ptolemy and was finished about 280 years before Christ. The style and workmanship are represented to have been superb, and the material was of a white stone. It is stated by

Josephus that the light, which was always kept burning on its top at night was visible forty-one miles. This great lighthouse was probably destroyed by an earthquake, but nothing is known of the date of its destruction. The tower existed for 1,600 years. For these reasons it has been classed among the world's wonders. As to the other inquiry of our correspondent, we will have to hear something more definite before we are able to give an intelligent answer.

TISSUE BALLOTS.

PRINCETON, IOWA.

Please give the method of operating with the "tissue ballot," which has been practiced in the Southern States? C. A. McCarn.

Answer.—The voter in the sunny South who belongs to the tissue-ballot corps has learned his part well. He takes a regular ballot; within this he folds very carefully and closely any number of tissue ballots which may be necessary to carry the district with "we 'uns;" these tissue ballots, being very thin and light, do not appreciably increase the size of the regular ballot, although there may be a dozen tissue frauds in the package; the doctored ballot is dropped in the box; then, when necessary, the box is shaken up, so that the tissue ballots, which have been so carefully folded, fall out one by one and swell the majority of "we 'uns" over "you 'uns." If the district is an eminently respectable one, the difference between the names on the poll-book and the number of ballots in the box must be investigated. This formality is not always complied with, but when it is, one of the tissue-ballot corps is blind-folded and made to take as many, or almost as many, ballots out of the box as will make the contents of the box correspond with the poll-book. The blind-folded party is careful, of course, to take out only the regular honest ballots, leaving the tissues behind, so that "we 'uns" may not be counted out by "nig-gahs and kawpah-baggahs, sah!"

ON SEVERAL TOPICS.

FONTANELLE, IOWA.

1. What does the letter "H." stand for in Thomas Benton's name? 2. Why are orange blossoms worn at a wedding? 3. How did Jephthah's daughter die, as you will find in McGuffey's old Fifth Reader: "And ere the sun went down, lo, she was dead, but not by violence?" 4. How did the custom originate for covering looking-glasses when there is a corpse in the house? A READER.

Answer.—1. Senator Benton's middle name was Hart. 2. We know of no other reason than that the flowers of the orange have such a charming fragrance and pure whiteness; the bitter orange is preferred, as its flowers are more fragrant, and there are double and free flowering kinds especially adapted to this use. 3. For an answer to this question read the book of Judges in the Old Testament, which will probably throw as much light on the matter as any unknown author in an out-of-date reader. 4. It is one of those customs which cannot be traced to any particular source, but which have come to be recognized as eminently proper on such an occasion.

GENERAL MEADE—BANK NOTES.

OAKDALE, Antelope Co., Neb.

To settle a dispute please answer the following questions: 1. Did not General Meade have the same command at Lee's surrender that he did at the battle of Gettysburg? Some say that General Grant had personal

command of the Army of the Potomac at the surrender. 2. Are not our national bank notes legal tender, or can they be refused by individuals?

F. C. FLAUTZ.

Answer.—1. General Meade, on June 28, 1863, was suddenly called to succeed General Hooker in command of the Potomac, and July 1-3 fought the battle of Gettysburg. From May 4, 1864, to April 9, 1865, he was, under General Grant, in the immediate command of the Army of the Potomac, from the battle in the Wilderness down to the capture of Petersburg and the surrender of Lee. 2. From a national bank note we copy the following: "This note is receivable at par in all parts of the United States in payment of all taxes and excises and all other dues to the United States except duties on imports, and also for all salaries and other debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations, and associations within the United States, except interest on public debt."

CONGRESSIONAL RAILROAD LAND GRANTS.

LONDON, Kan.
Please answer and settle a dispute. Has Congress ever donated public lands to build railroads antecedent to the organization of the Republican party?

M. and J. Disputants.

Answer.—Yes. In the winter of 1849-50, Congress passed an act giving to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, designed to connect Mobile with the mouth of the Ohio, about 1,000,000 acres of the public lands lying contiguous to the route. This act was the first of the kind, and was soon followed by a grant of 2,500,000 acres to the State of Illinois, which conveyed it to the Illinois Central Railroad, for the purpose of aiding it to construct its road from Dunleith, on the Mississippi River, to Cairo, 455 miles, with a branch from Centralia to Chicago, 249 miles.

STATE SUPREME COURT.

McHENRY, Ill.
In what Judicial District of Illinois is McHenry County? What counties compose this district? What is the number of judges, their salary, term of office, present incumbents, and what counties are they from?

LEARNER.

Answer.—McHenry County belongs in the Sixth District, which comprises also the counties of Whiteside, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, Lee, Ogle, and Rock Island. There are seven judges, who are elected for nine years, and receive \$5,000 a year. Their districts, names, and the counties they are from are as follows:

First.....John H. Mulkey.....Alexander.
Second.....John Schoefield.....Clark.
Third.....John M. Scott.....McLean.
Fourth.....P. H. Walker.....Schuyler.
Fifth.....A. M. Craig.....Knox.
Sixth.....Benjamin R. Sheldon.....Jo Daviess.
Seventh.....T. Lyle Dickey.....Cook.

ADVANCEMENT TO SETTLERS.

HOWARD CITY, Mich.
Please state if the United States Government ever gave to the people of said government any money as a gift without any consideration for the same.

W. H. LOVELY.

Answer.—Mr. Wright, of Pennsylvania, Jan. 27, 1879, moved the passage of a bill which provided: "That from and after the passage of this act, any person who is entitled to and shall comply with the provisions of the act of which this is supplemental, as well as all the requirements imposed by this act, shall receive from the United States, out of any money not otherwise

appropriated, the sum of \$500, in a loan, to be paid as hereinafter provided," etc. This was defeated by a vote of yeas 23, nays 210.

AMERICAN POETS—CORK.

NEWMAN, Douglas Co., Ill.

1. Give the names of five of the leading American poets. 2. Where is cork obtained, and what is it made of?

JAMES G. TODD.

Answer.—1. It is difficult to give five names of American poets that could not have added to them several others whose songs have sunk deep into the great heart of the people. We submit several names of poets, past and present: Longfellow, Whittier, Lowell, Bryant, Joaquin Miller, N. P. Willis, Fitz-Greene Halleck, and Holmes. 2. Cork is the soft, elastic bark of a species of oak, which grows abundantly in Spain, Italy, Algeria, and the south of France.

COMMISSIONER BENTLEY—MAJOR GENERALS.

CLEAR LAKE, IOWA.

1. I have heard it stated that Mr. Bentley, Commissioner of Pensions, was a General in the rebel army. Is this so? Was he in any way connected with the rebellion? 2. Please give the names of the Major Generals now in the United States army in the order of their rank.

A. J. COTTRELL.

Answer.—1. Commissioner Bentley was never in the rebel army, or any other army. He was a Wisconsin lawyer before he became Commissioner of Pensions. 2. General Winfield Scott Hancock, General J. M. Schofield, General Irwin McDowell.

THE LADY ELGIN.

SALEM, Wis.

Will you please answer as to how the Lady Elgin became wrecked? Was it during a storm, or was it from some other cause? When did it occur?

MINNIE MARTIN.

Answer.—The Lady Elgin was run into by a schooner called the Augusta, since called the Colonel Cook, and sunk in a quarter of an hour. As stated in these columns last week, the collision occurred in September, 1860.

BALDWIN'S LOCOMOTIVE.

LAWRENCE, Ill.

Please inform me who was the first inventor of the "Baldwin locomotive," and when invented.

C. J. MILLER.

Answer.—Matthias W. Baldwin, the inventor and builder of locomotive engines, in the year 1832 constructed his first locomotive for the Philadelphia and Germantown Railway, and called it the "Ironside."

INGERSOLL—BUNYAN.

MONONA, IOWA.

1. Was Colonel Ingersoll's father a preacher? 2. How many books did John Bunyan write?

L. E. INGELS.

Answer.—1. Yes. 2. The "dreamer" is thus spoken of by one of his biographers and critics: "Bunyan wrote many works; it is said as many as he was years of age (60)."

THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY.

CABERY, Ill.

When was the salary of President raised? What was the salary of General Grant during his last term?

E. N. R.

Answer.—The increase of salary of the President commenced March 4, 1873, at the beginning of General Grant's second term. The law was passed in 1872.

GENERAL GRANT'S SONS.

WINCHESTER, Kan.

1. What is the profession of General Grant's three sons? 2. Does General Garfield belong to any secret organizations? If so, please name them.

JOHN F. HULL.

Answer.—1. Colonel Fred Grant is a soldier,

Jesse Grant is a stock broker, and Ulysses Grant is a lawyer. 2. President Garfield is a Free Mason.

THE ECLIPSE OF 1869.

LEWISBURG, Harlan Co., Neb.
When was the total eclipse of 1869, in August or September, and on what day of the month? Please answer to decide a wager. A. I. STEWART.

Answer.—The total eclipse of the sun visible in the United States occurred Aug. 7, 1869.

GENERAL O. O. HOWARD.

BRANT, Calumet Co., Wis.
Please give a biographical sketch of the Howard family of whom General O. O. Howard is one; where and when born. I am rejoicing to-day, with thousands of others, that General O. O. Howard is transferred from the West to the East. E. W. SCOTT.

Answer.—General Oliver Otis Howard, whose name is so well known, and who is so highly esteemed throughout the country, was born at Leeds, Me., Nov. 8, 1830. At the age of 19 he graduated at Bowdoin College, and then entered West Point, graduating in the class of 1854. On beginning his life as a soldier, he was appointed to the Ordnance Department, and in July, 1857, he became first lieutenant, and was attached to the Military Academy as acting assistant professor of mathematics, and now returns to assume charge of this institution after twenty-six years of active, gallant service for his country. Lieutenant Howard remained at "the Point" until the breaking out of the slavery war, when he became Colonel of the Third Maine Volunteers, in May, 1861. At the battle of Bull Run, July, 21, he commanded a brigade, and, for gallant conduct, was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers, Sept. 3, 1861. General Howard's brigade formed a part of General McClellan's Army of the Potomac, and, in the battle of Fair Oaks, May 31, 1862, he lost his right arm. At the battle of Antietam, and at Fredericksburg, he commanded a division. In November, 1862, he was made a Major General of Volunteers, and his division, with Newton's, was the first to cross the Rappahannock, in the battle last named. General Howard was given command, April 1, 1863, of the Eleventh Army Corps, and, at the battle of Chancellorsville, his corps, small, and suffering from the loss of their previous commander, were the first to receive the shock of the sudden flank attack of Stonewall Jackson, and, despite the great efforts of their commander, suffered severely. At Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, this brave band and their leader won such distinction that they received the thanks of the President and Congress. After the pursuit of the secession army to the Rapidan, General Howard's corps and the Twelfth were detached to go to Chattanooga to reinforce the army of the West, and he was conspicuous for bravery at the battle of Missionary Ridge and Chattanooga, Nov. 25, 1863, and in report of the campaign General Sherman commends him as "exhibiting the highest and most chivalrous traits of the soldier." General Howard commanded the Fourth Corps which, under General Sherman, fought their way from Chattanooga to Atlanta, May-September, 1864. He was appointed, July 27, commander of the Army of the Tennessee in place of General McPherson, who was killed near

Atlanta. In the great "March to the Sea" General Howard led the right wing of the devoted Union army, and took an active part in the entire campaign, as well as having been actively engaged in the battles of the campaign through the Carolinas. On Dec. 21, 1864, he was made a brigadier general in the regular army, and in March, 1865, received the brevet rank of major general in that army. General Howard became the head of the Freedman's Bureau, May 12, 1865, and remained its head until its mission was fulfilled. For a number of years he has been in command of the extreme north-western forces on the Pacific coast, until his recent transfer to West Point. General Howard has the honor of being a model Christian soldier. His brother, General C. H. Howard, is the proprietor of the *Advance*, a prominent weekly paper of the Congregationalist church, published in this city, and his aged mother resides in a suburb of this city, enjoying in her declining years the many honors of which her gallant son is the recipient.

GOVERNOR CULLOM.

GARNAVILLE, Iowa.
Please give a biographical sketch of Governor Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois. A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Governor Cullom was born Nov. 22, 1829, in Kentucky. He received his early education in the common schools, studying during the winter months, and devoting the summers to farm work. Subsequently he was two years in the Rock River Seminary at Mt. Morris, Ill., where he obtained a very fair education. Indifferent health suggested to him the advisability of leaving farm life and entering the legal profession, and he made his way to Springfield, intending to study law with Abraham Lincoln. As the latter was not much at home, he advised the young man to enter the office of Stuart and Edwards, which advice he followed in the fall of 1853. Long illness compelled him to relinquish his studies in 1854, and he was urged to abandon his purpose of studying law, but he had made up his mind to be a lawyer, and a lawyer he would be. When he had recovered his health on the farm he went back to Springfield, and was admitted to the bar in 1855 and elected City Attorney. The following year he was a Presidential elector on the Fillmore (or Whig) ticket, and was elected to the Legislature, receiving both the Whig and Free-Soil votes of his county. In 1860 he was again elected to the Legislature on the Republican ticket, and was chosen Speaker of the House. Two years after he was a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated, only to run for Congress in 1864 and to defeat his old preceptor, the Hon. John T. Stuart. He was re-elected to Congress in 1866 over the Hon. B. S. Edwards, the other member of the law firm with whom he had studied, and this time had an increased majority. At the organization of that Congress he was chosen Chairman of the Committee on Territories, and prepared a bill known as the "Cullom bill," which provided for the uprooting of Mormonism. He was burned in effigy at Beaver City by the Mormons. In 1872 he was

once more elected to the Legislature, and again elected Speaker, and was returned to the General Assembly two years later. In 1876 he was elected Governor, and in 1880 was re-elected to that office for four years more. Governor Cullom is a plain, hard-working man, with an extensive knowledge of State and National politics.

PARAGUAY—COLOMBIA—ALASKA.

HUMBOLDT, Kan.

1. Is there an import duty on sugar? If not, when was it removed? 2. What is the system of government existing in Paraguay? Is it a strict republic, and what is their elective system? 3. I notice in late text-books a South American country called "Colombia," while in the older books it is "United States of Colombia." When was the name changed? 4. When was Alaska purchased, and what was the sum paid?

JOHN MCCALLISTER.

Answer.—1. The duties levied by the United States on sugar make no discrimination between countries, but treat them all alike, except in the one case of the Hawaii Islands, with which we have a reciprocity treaty, which provides that we admit their products, that include sugar, free of duty. 2. The republic of Paraguay gained its independence from Spanish rule in 1811, but was governed by a dictator from 1815 to 1840, and then followed troublous times till 1870, when Lopez was defeated and killed in battle. In June of the same year a congress met at Asuncion, and voted a new constitution, which was publicly proclaimed Nov. 25. This document was modeled closely on that of the Argentine Confederation, the legislative authority being vested in a Congress of two houses, a Senate and a House of Deputies; and the executive entrusted to a President, elected for a term of six years, with a non-active Vice President at his side. There is a Cabinet of responsible Ministers presiding over the several departments. 3. The Federative Republic of Colombia is officially styled the United States of Colombia. 4. This government paid Russia \$7,200,000 for Alaska.

WHO NOMINATED GARFIELD.

FAIRFIELD, Iowa.

Please give the name of the gentleman that nominated Garfield?

D. S. LUMBARD.

Answer.—No one nominated General Garfield. When the second ballot was taken, a delegate from Pennsylvania voted for him, and he received one and two votes in all but six ballots from that time until the thirty-fourth ballot, when 17 votes were recorded for him. Just after this ballot was taken, the following occurred, which we take from THE INTER OCEAN's complete report of the convention's proceedings:

"As the result of the thirty-fourth ballot was announced, General Garfield, of Ohio, rose and stood upon his seat.

"The Chair—For what purpose does the gentleman from Ohio rise?

"General Garfield—I rise to a question of order.

"The Chair—The gentleman from Ohio rises to a question of order. He will state his point of order.

"General Garfield—I challenge the correctness of the announcement. The announcement contains votes for me. No man has a right, without the consent of the person voted for, to announce his name and vote for him in this convention.

Such consent I have not given. (There was great confusion at this point, and the Chair, after rapping vigorously for order, said:)

"The Chair—The gentleman from Ohio is not stating a question of order. (Great laughter and applause.) No person has received a majority of the votes cast. Another ballot will be taken. The clerk will proceed to call the roll."

General Garfield was nominated on the thirty-sixth ballot.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

FORT SCOTT, Kan.

Will you please explain who are the "Electors," and how they are made such? In fact, a general explanation of the way in which the President is elected?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—It has been the custom for the several political parties to hold State conventions some time before the Presidential election, and at these conventions to select persons duly qualified to be Presidential electors. There are as many electors in a State as that State is entitled to have members in both Houses of Congress. The people vote for these electors, knowing they are voting for those who head the ticket, whatever it may be. When the electors are chosen, their election is properly certified to, and they meet at the capitals of their respective States on the first day of January, next after their election, and then and there cast their votes for President and Vice President. These votes are sealed up and conveyed by special messenger to Washington, where they are opened and counted before both Houses of Congress, and the result is proclaimed by the President of the Senate.

WHEN A CENTURY BEGINS AND ENDS.

NORTH BALTIMORE, Ohio.

I have a small question to submit to you to be answered. It is this: Did a man born the first day of January, 1800, live all of his life in the nineteenth century, or did he live one year of it in the eighteenth century? Or in other words, when did the eighteenth century end?

SOLOMON ZARBAUGH.

Answer.—This is a question which has been long and ardently discussed, and persons equally intelligent are found ranged on opposite sides. Discarding the point as to the difference between the Old and New Style, we may illustrate the position taken by many on the subject as follows: A century is a hundred years. The end of the first century was not reached until those years were completed. The first century, therefore, was completed on the last day of the last year of the hundred. Then the new century began the first day of the first year of the new hundred. Therefore, say those who reason in this way, the eighteenth century ended Dec. 31, 1800, and the nineteenth century began Jan. 1, 1801, and will close with the hundred years ending the last day of the year 1900.

MICHIGAN'S FIRST RAILROAD.

ELIDA, Winnebago Co., Ill.

Please state when the first railroad was built in Michigan, and whether by the State or an incorporated company?

R. D. NORTON.

Answer.—From Poor's Manual the following is taken: The construction of the Michigan Central Railroad was begun by the Detroit and St. Joseph Railroad Company (chartered June 29, 1832) in 1836; but before completing any portion of the same, that company sold their property and franchises to the State of Michigan, April 22, 1837. Under State construction the

line was opened for business from Detroit to Ypsilanti, Feb. 3, 1838; to Ann Arbor, Oct. 17, 1839; to Dexter, June 30, 1841; to Jackson, Dec. 20, 1841; to Marshall, Aug. 12, 1844; to Battle Creek, Nov. 25, 1845, and to Kalamazoo, Feb. 2, 1846. The Legislature at this point refused any further appropriations, and in the same year the Michigan Central Railroad Company was chartered to purchase the property, and possession was given to them Sept. 24, 1846.

THE PASTON LETTERS—PRINCE OF MONACO.

Will you please answer the following: 1. What are the Paston Letters? 2. Who was the Prince of Monaco.

Answer.—1. Sir John Fenn, an English antiquary, born at Norwich in 1739, died in 1794, made collections of original letters which were written during the reigns of Henry VI., Edward IV., Richard III., and Henry VII., by members of the Paston Family, and others, who were personally conversant with the events of their day and generation. These epistles were known as the Paston Letters. 2. The Grimaldi family in 980 gained possession of the lordship of Monaco, of which they remained the hereditary princes for upward of seven centuries.

FORTY-SECOND OHIO—GARFIELD'S AGE.

GRAND RIDGE, La Salle Co., Ill.
1. Has there ever been any children born in the White House at Washington, and who were they? 2. Was the Forty-second Ohio Regiment commanded by General Garfield when he was a Colonel in the early part of the war? Greeley says in his "Conflict" that General Garfield commanded a brigade in 1861-2, and the Forty-second was one of the regiments. If the Forty-second was his regiment what became of it? I can't find any more about it than what Greeley says. 3. What is General Garfield's age? Wm. R. Lewis.

Answer.—1. So far as we are informed, there have been none. 2. General Garfield was Colonel of the Forty-second Ohio. Greeley is right. The regiment did excellent service for their country, as may be learned by consulting the war records at Washington; also, by writing to Columbus, Ohio, where the records of the Ohio regiments are kept. 3. Garfield was born Nov. 19, 1831.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Is it a fact that there is no election for President in the city of Washington? If so, state why. C. N. S.

Answer.—Article I, section 8, of the Constitution provides that Congress shall have power "to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular States and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States." This confers upon Congress the exclusive legislative control over the District of Columbia, but does not allow the inhabitants any vote for Presidential electors.

EFFECTS OF TOBACCO ON THE SYSTEM.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.
What effect does the use of smoking and chewing tobacco have on the system, and what, if any, are the benefits derived from their use? STUDENTS.

Answer.—Medical authorities differ widely on these questions, the most respectable holding entirely different views as to the effects of tobacco upon the system. It is not to be forgotten however, that the use of tobacco is specially to be avoided by persons who have not reached

their full bodily development. Medical authorities are able to trace to its extreme use certain forms of pharyngitis, dyspepsia, palpitation of the heart, and so-called nervousness. Oculists recognize a form of blindness known as tobacco amaurosis. Toothache is sometimes relieved by a smoke.

SOME SOUTHERN VOTES.

PHILLIPS, Price Co., Wis.
Please give the vote of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Arkansas from 1872 to 1880, both inclusive, at State and National elections, and the number cast for each party. WILLIS HAND.

Answer.—We give, in the first set of tables, the votes of the States named in the three Presidential eras, which make up the period referred to by this inquirer:

STATE.	1872.		1876.	
	Grant.	Greeley.	Hayes.	Tilden.
Alabama.....	90,282	79,444	68,708	102,989
Arkansas.....	41,373	37,927	38,669	58,071
Georgia.....	62,550	76,356	50,446	130,088
Kentucky.....	88,766	99,965	97,156	159,696
Louisiana.....	71,663	57,029	75,315	70,508
Mississippi.....	82,175	47,288	52,205	112,173
North Carolina.....	94,763	70,094	108,417	125,427
South Carolina.....	72,290	22,703	91,870	90,896

STATE.	Garfield.	Hancock.	Weaver.
Alabama.....	56,221	91,185	4,642
Arkansas.....	42,436	60,775	4,079
Georgia.....	54,086	102,470	969
Kentucky.....	106,316	149,068	11,499
Louisiana.....	38,016	65,067	439
Mississippi.....	34,854	75,750	5,797
North Carolina.....	115,874	124,208	1,126
South Carolina.....	58,071	112,312	5,917

In Louisiana there were in 1880 two Garfield tickets, one the "regular" ticket, the other the "Beattie" ticket; the former polled 27,676, the latter 10,340 votes.

The other votes are as follows:

	1872.		1874.	
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.
Alabama.....	89,868	81,371	93,928	107,118
Arkansas.....	41,681	38,415	No op.	76,453
Georgia.....	46,643	103,529	.....	.....
Kentucky*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Louisiana.....	72,890	55,249	.....	.....
Mississippi.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
N. Carolina.....	98,630	96,731	.....	.....
S. Carolina.....	69,338	36,553	80,403	68,818

*No election.

In Kentucky and Mississippi there were no elections in 1872 or 1874. In 1873 the vote stood as follows, in Mississippi: Republican, 69,870; Democrat, 50,490. In Kentucky, the vote in 1871, was: Republican, 89,083; Democrat, 126,059; and in 1875, it was: Republican, 90,795; Democrat, 126,976.

The other votes were as under:

	1876.		1878.	
	Rep.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem.
Alabama....	55,582	79,255	No op.	88,531
Arkansas..	37,306	71,293	No op.	88,728
Georgia....	34,116	109,811	.....	.....
Louisiana..	74,624	71,193	.....	.....
N. Carolina.	110,909	123,369	.....	.....
S. Carolina.	86,216	83,078	No op.	119,550

In Kentucky, in 1879, the Republican ticket received 81,882 votes, and the Democratic ticket 125,799 votes. In Louisiana, in 1879, the Republican ticket received 26,611 votes and the Democratic ticket 53,944 votes. In Mississippi in 1877, there were a few (1,163) scattering votes, the Demo-

cratic ticket receiving the remainder, 97,727. The elections in 1880 resulted as follows:

	Greenback.	Democrat.
Alabama.....	42,363	133,887
Arkansas.....	31,424	84,185
South Carolina.....	4,277	117,432

In Georgia, last year, there were two Democratic tickets in the field, the independent Democratic ticket receiving 64,004 votes, the "regular" 118,349. In North Carolina the Republican ticket received 115,590, and the Democratic ticket 121,827.

WHO "SUCCEEDS THURMAN?"

O bets D that John Sherman was elected to succeed A. G. Thurman in the United States Senate from Ohio, D takes the bet claiming that John Sherman was elected Senator from Ohio to succeed James A. Garfield. Who is right technically, and who wins?

ALEDO, ILL.

STAKES.

Answer.—General Garfield was chosen to succeed Senator Thurman. Then President-elect Garfield declined, and Secretary Sherman was chosen to fill the vacancy, caused by the declining of Garfield. Sherman succeeds Thurman, but was elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the declination of General Garfield, who was elected to succeed Senator Thurman. It is, however, a distinction without a difference.

SOUTHERN INSTITUTIONS FOR THE COLORED RACE.

CARTHAGE, MISS.

1. Are there any Catholic schools in the United States exclusively for educating colored students; if so, where are they located? 2. How many colleges and seminaries have all other Christian denominations erected in the Southern States to educate the colored people, and where are they located? **WM. BLAKE.**

Answer.—The last report of the Commissioner of Education (1880) shows that among the colored schools for secondary instruction, conducted by the Roman Catholics are the St. Francis Xavier's school at Baltimore, Md., that reported 265 students. This is the only mention made in the statistics of Catholic institutions for the instruction of the colored race. 2. From the same report the following figures are taken:

Normal schools:	No.
Methodist.....	5
Congregationalist.....	9
Baptist.....	3
Protestant Episcopal.....	2
Presbyterian.....	2
Friends.....	1
Non-denominational.....	12

Institutions for Secondary Instructions:

Congregationalist.....	6
Methodist.....	4
Protestant Episcopal.....	7
Roman Catholic.....	1
Presbyterian.....	3
Baptist.....	3
Non-denominational.....	3

Universities and Colleges:

Congregationalist.....	4
Baptist.....	1
Methodist.....	4
Presbyterian.....	1
Non-denominational.....	2

Schools of Theology:

Methodist.....	6
Congregationalist.....	3
Presbyterian.....	2
Baptist.....	5
Non-sectarian.....	1

There are, besides these, three schools of law, four schools of medicine, and two schools for the deaf and dumb and blind. The District of Columbia is included in the list of Southern States, as will be observed by the subjoined

table. We have not the space to locate each institution, but give the States in which the schools of the several kinds are located. The line headed "A" refers to the normal schools; "B" the institutions for secondary instruction; "C" the universities and colleges, and "D" the schools of theology, as follows:

State.	A.	B.	C.	D.
Alabama.....	4	4	..	3
Arkansas.....	1	..	..	..
Florida.....	..	1	..	..
Georgia.....	2	4	1	1
Kentucky.....	1	..	1	..
Louisiana.....	2	1	3	3
Maryland.....	2	1	..	1
Mississippi.....	2	..	2	1
Missouri.....	1	..	..	..
North Carolina.....	5	5	1	2
South Carolina.....	2	5	1	1
Tennessee.....	5	2	2	2
Texas.....	1	1	1	..
Virginia.....	3	2	..	1
District of Columbia.....	3	1	1	2

The schools of law are located, one each in Louisiana, Mississippi, and the District of Columbia; the schools of medicine, one each in Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia; and the schools for the deaf and dumb and the blind, in Maryland and North Carolina. There are several schools of different kinds for the education of the colored race in Pennsylvania and Ohio, but these are not included in the above figures. Of these institutions, the latest reports show there are 34 normal schools, 28 institutions for secondary instruction, 15 universities and colleges, 19 schools of theology, 3 schools of law, and 4 schools of medicine.

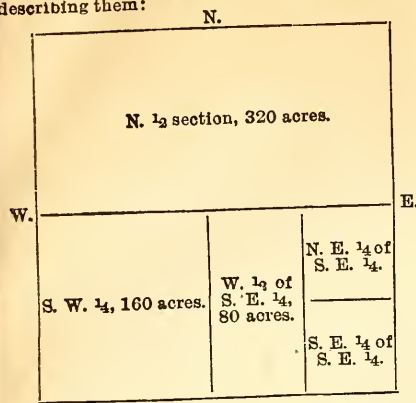
DIVIDING SECTIONS OF LAND.

MCKENZIE, TENN.

1. What State was last admitted into the Union? 2. Name the Territories of the United States? 3. How is a section subdivided under the United States survey? 4. What States have been formed from the territory acquired from Mexico? **J. N. SPARKS.**

Answer.—1. Colorado. 2. Arizona, Dakota, District of Columbia, Idaho, Indian Territory, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and Alaska. 3. The public lands of the United States are divided into townships and these are divided into sections. Through some convenient point in the territory to be surveyed, generally some natural landmark, a meridian, or true north and south line, is carefully run to the limits of the tract. This is called the principal meridian. At the end of every mile and half mile, and at the end of every six miles, stakes, monuments, or other marks are set. Through a convenient point in the principal meridian a second line is run east and west, and divided and staked in the same way. The second line is called the base line. Through each six-mile point on the base line another meridian is run, and through each six-mile point on the principal meridian a line is run parallel to the base line. These two sets of lines divide the tract into squares, which are six miles on a side, and contain thirty-six square miles. These squares are called townships. Other meridians and parallels from the mile points are now run across the townships, which are thus divided into thirty-six squares called sections, each containing one square mile. By other lines the sections are subdivided into

quarters, and sometimes into eighths and sixteenths. The diagram given shows the divisions and subdivisions of a section, and the method of describing them:



4. The United States acquired from Mexico the whole or a part of Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, and California.

OHIO'S VOTE FOR SENATOR.

What was General Garfield's vote for United States Senator from Ohio, and what was the vote of Senator Thurman?

CHICAGO.
INQUIRER.

Answer.—General Garfield's vote in the State Senate of Ohio was 20 to Senator Thurman's 13. In the House he received 66 to Senator Thurman's 44. Each received the nomination of his party in caucus by a unanimous choice. The caucus was held Jan. 6.

DUCTILITY OF METALS.

What metal can be drawn into the finest wire, and what into the finest plate? Also, is platinum a metal?

LEBANON, IOWA.
G. B. HUMPHREY.

Answer.—A grain of gold may be drawn into 500 feet of wire, and Wollaston obtained a wire of platinum only one-30,000th of an inch in diameter. Platinum is a metal. There are several metals which are used exclusively in plating, and gold and silver make the finest.

JANAUSCHEK, THE ACTRESS.

Please answer, to settle a dispute, of what country is Janauschk, the actress, a native, and how should the name be pronounced.

PEORIA, ILL.
B. and H.

Answer.—Fanny Janauschk, the Bohemian tragic actress, was born at Prague. Her name is pronounced Ya-now-shek, with the accent on the first syllable, and the "a" sounded as in "far."

GOVERNOR PORTER'S VOTE IN INDIANA.

1. What was Porter's total vote in Indiana? 2. What was Garfield's total vote, with the Eighth District, and without it?

READER.

Answer.—1. Governor Porter received 231,405, to Landers' 224,452. Garfield's vote, with the Eighth District, was 232,164, and without that district it was 212,346.

ABD-EL KADER.

Please give me a sketch of the life of Ex-Sultan of Arabia Abd-el Kader. If dead when and where did he die?

G. P. D.

Answer.—Abd-el Kader, who is celebrated for his brave resistance of the French in Algeria, was born near Mascara, in the early part of the

year 1807. His father was a man of great influence among his countrymen from his high rank and learning, and Abd-el Kader himself at an early age acquired a wide reputation for wisdom and piety, as well as for his skill in horsemanship and other manly exercises. When Charles X., of France, undertook the Algerine expedition, Abd-el Kader, although young, was, on account of his powers of mind and body, chosen chief by some of the tribes, in the hope that he would deliver their country from the foreign invader. Not long after that he was proclaimed Emir of Mascara, and declared a religious war against the French, who concluded with him a treaty, which constituted him Sovereign of Oran, with a right of the monopoly of the entire country, similar to that exercised by Mehemet Ali in Egypt. As he desired to extend his dominions, he became embroiled with the French shortly afterward, and at intervals for nearly ten years war prevailed. In 1841, however, Marshal Bugeaud assumed the chief command of the French forces, that then numbered about 100,000 men. The war was carried on with great vigor, and Abd-el Kader, after a determined resistance, surrendered himself Dec. 22, 1847. The promise that he would be allowed to retire to Alexandria or St. Jean d'Aee, upon the faith of which he had given himself up, was broken by the French Government, and he was taken to France and was imprisoned, first in the castle of Pau, and afterwards in that of Amboise. Louis Napoleon released him in 1852 upon Abd-el Kader swearing on the Koran not to oppose the French rule in Africa. He kept his word, and treated with the utmost kindness and consideration the Christian population of the East, at the time of the Syrian massacres in 1860. For these services he received a decoration from the French Emperor. Since then he resided successively at Broussa, Constantinople, and Damascus. He is reported to have died at Mecca in October, 1873.

THOMAS A' KEMPIS' WORKS.

1. In what language was Thomas A' Kempis written? 2. Into what languages has it been translated?

WEST MITCHELL, IOWA.
Ic.

Answer.—1. The works of Thomas A' Kempis were written in Latin. 2. They have been translated into almost every language spoken by Christians.

SETTLEMENT OF NEW YORK.

Please state in what year New York was settled.

FRED FARNEY.

Answer.—In 1614 the first Dutch settlements were made on Manhattan Island.

WOMEN VOTERS IN WYOMING.

Will you please settle a dispute by stating in your "Curiosity Shop" if or not the women of Wyoming Territory have the right of franchise?

R. R.

Answer.—Women have the right to vote in the Territory of Wyoming.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Please give us a sketch of Washington Territory; its climate, soil, and timber, and agricultural resources; general lay of the country, and which is the best part for a person to locate in for farming and stock raising? Does corn do well there? How does the weather compare, the year round, with what we have in this part of Iowa?

LITTLE SUE.

Answer.—The Territory of Washington con-

tains in round numbers 70,000 square miles, and is divided into two parts; that west of the Cascade Mountains is called Western Washington, and embraces two-sevenths of the Territory, and the other portion this side of the Cascades is East Washington, and includes the remaining five-sevenths. In its climate, topography, and productions Washington Territory resembles Oregon. It has a Pacific coast line of about 180 miles, and the ocean exercises quite an important influence on the climate of the Western part. Of the climate of this portion, it may be said, it is equable, while the Eastern part is subject to greater extremes of heat and cold. The seasons of the Western part are two in number, the wet and the dry. The wet lasts from November to March or April, and drizzly rains prevail; the rest of the year is not wholly dry, showers being not infrequent. The mean temperature of Western Washington is about 58, or eight or ten degrees higher than that of Iowa; the spring is about 48, the summer 63, the autumn 51, and the winter 38; Iowa is warmer in summer and colder in winter. Of course on the seacoast the rainfall is greatest, and in the Western part snow rarely falls to a great depth and but little ice is formed; the grass remains green nearly the entire year, and flowers are often found in bloom in midwinter. In Eastern Washington it is much dryer. Western Washington is for the most part quite densely wooded, although there are some prairie tracts; the soil is generally fertile and rich in parts. In Eastern Washington timber is found only on the mountain slopes, and consists of evergreens, and in the valleys of the streams are cottonwood, alder, pine, and cedar. In the valleys of the Yakima, Colville, Palouse, and Walla Walla there is a considerable amount of land adapted to cultivation, and more that is suited to grazing, cattle doing well on the bunch grass the year round. In this portion irrigation has been attended with excellent results. The chief products of the Territory are wheat, barley, rye, oats, potatoes, turnips, etc., and apples, pears, plums, cherries, and cranberries. In Eastern Washington Indian corn and peaches will grow.

JOHN B. GOUGH.

CARTHAGE, Miss.

Please give a lover of temperance as long a sketch of the life of John B. Gough as your space will allow.

WM. BLAKE.

Answer.—John B. Gough was born at Sandgate, Kent, England, Aug. 22, 1817, and removed to America in the year 1829, when he settled on a farm in Oneida County, New York. In 1831 he obtained employment with a bookbinder in New York City, but soon after fell into habits of intemperance, and was often out of employment. Gough became the associate, during his days of intemperance, of the most degraded in the grog-shops and sinks of iniquity which New York contained, and for the amusement of those who frequented these low haunts often sung and recited, and became a great favorite on account of his unusual powers of mimicry and action, and in return for the entertainment he gave was furnished with liquor. In the year 1839 he married and went into the book-binding for himself, but his in-

temperate habits sadly interfered with his business. Then came the turn in his life, he lost his wife and child, suffered from delirium tremens, and was reduced to great misery, when a good Quaker met him on the street and appealed to him to sign the pledge. When he related his experience at a temperance meeting not long after, his talents gave him a prominent place among the pioneers in that great reform movement, and he labored for a year or two when he met some of his old companions and violated his pledge. He publicly confessed his fall at a meeting held at Worcester, and since 1843 he has labored eloquently and earnestly in the cause of temperance in this country and in Europe.

SCOTCH POUND NOTES.

ABILENE, Kan.

I heard a man say recently that the Scotch pound note issued two hundred years ago had never been depreciated, nor hid itself away. Can you give me its history? Was it a convertible note?

J. W. HAMILTON.

Answer.—The Bank of Scotland, instituted in 1695, began, in 1704, to issue £1 notes, and their issue has since been continued without interruption. To quote from a Parliamentary report: "In Scotland, the issue of promissory notes, payable to bearer on demand, for a sum of not less than twenty shillings, has been at all times permitted by law; nor has any act been passed limiting the period for which such issue shall continue legal in that country. During the great financial crises through which the banks of Great Britain passed, and in some of which even the Bank of England for a time suspended specie payment, the Bank of Scotland stood the shocks, and that, too, 'without any protection from the restriction by which the Bank of England and that of Ireland were relieved from cash payments.'" Just what this correspondent means by a "convertible note" is not clear in this connection. The distinction between the meaning of the same terms, as applied to different countries and systems, should be borne in mind.

GENERAL GARFIELD'S FARM.

HERMAN, Knox Co., Ill.

Please tell me how many acres General Garfield's farm has in it, and which he raises most of—stock or grain?

C. McF.

Answer.—The home of General Garfield is in the township of Mentor, twenty-five miles east of Cleveland. Mentor is an agricultural town, the farm houses near by are large and roomy, and the people comfortable. A mile or so west of the Disciples' Church, on the right-hand side of the road, is a two-story farm house, with dormer windows. There is a wide veranda in front, and upon it old-fashioned arm-chairs. Near by is a kitchen garden, and cherry and peach trees and currant bushes and maples are all about the house of "Lawnfield," which is the home of General Garfield. The farm is 150 acres. There is a dairy, and the usual crops are grown, and some fine-blooded stock may be seen. President Garfield is an enthusiast on the subject of farming.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S IMPEACHMENT.

LINDEN, Ala.

What were the charges and specifications in the impeachment case of Andrew Johnson, and who were the prosecuting and defending counsel? Please answer as fully as space will permit.

JAS. M. QUINCY.

Answer.—The articles of impeachment were agreed to by Congress March 3, 1868, and pre-

sented to the Senate March 5. The specifications were based upon the President's removal of Mr. Stanton, his expressions in public speeches of contempt for Congress, declaring the Thirty-ninth not a constitutional Congress, and his hindrance of the execution of some of its acts. The trial began March 23. Chief Justice Chase presided. The managers on the part of the House of Representatives were John A. Bingham, of Ohio; George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts; James F. Wilson, of Iowa; John A. Logan, of Illinois; Thomas Williams, of Pennsylvania; Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts; Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania. The President's counsel were the Hon. Henry Stanbery, of Kentucky; the Hon. Benjamin R. Curtis, of Massachusetts, and the Hon. Thomas R. Nelson, of Tennessee.

VEGETABLE IVORY—REMONETIZATION.

MAFLETON, Wis.
1. How, and where does vegetable ivory grow? 2. Who suggested the remonetization of silver, a Republican or Democrat? 3. Where is Mrs. Abraham Lincoln?
E. MORTON.

Answer.—1. Vegetable ivory is an albuminous substance formed from a milky fluid in the fruit of the species of palm, common in Peru and New Granada. It corresponds to the meat of the coconut, the fruit of another species of palm. When the nuts are perfectly ripe and dry, the kernels are hard like ivory, and very white. 2. Stanley Matthews, Bland, and others, both Republicans and Democrats, agitated the subject of remonetization some time before the bill was passed, and then Nov. 5. 1877, Bland, in the House, moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill authorizing the free coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character. The bill, as finally amended, was voted for by 78 Republicans and 118 Democrats. 3. Mrs. Lincoln has been traveling abroad, but is now in care of her friends at Springfield, Ill.

DESERTERS.

ORD, NEB.
A friend of mine claims that deserters of the late rebellion are disfranchised for life, and their votes can be challenged at any election.
H. MATLEY.

Answer.—The law to which reference is made is found in section 1,996 of the Revised Statutes, and is as follows: "Any persons who deserted the military or naval service of the United States and did not return thereto or report themselves to a provost marshal within sixty days after the issuance of the proclamation by the President, dated the 11th day of March, 1865, are deemed to have voluntarily relinquished and forfeited their rights of citizenship, as well as their right to become citizens; and such deserters shall be forever incapable of holding any office of trust or profit under the United States, or of exercising any rights of citizens thereof."

BERNHARDT'S INCOME AND EXPENSES.

STERLING, Ill.
Please inform us what the daily hotel expenses per capita and in gross of the Bernhardt troupe at Chicago, at the Palmer House; also, how did Bernhardt come to this country—on a contract with a manager to play so many nights at a fixed price or on her own motion, she taking the risks of patronage?
SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The sum paid the Palmer House by the Bernhardt company is understood to have been \$100 per day for some fifteen persons, Sarah Bernhardt using the four finest parlors in

the house. Bernhardt came to this country after being guaranteed \$100,000 for 150 performances.

THE LOTUS-EATERS.

PETERSBURG, Ill.
Who were the "lotus-eaters" spoken of by Tennyson, and why are they so called?
W. A. SMITH.

Answer.—Homer, the "blind old man of Scio's rocky isle," describes the lotus-eaters as a people on the northern coast of Africa, who were visited by Ulysses in his wanderings, and who endeavored to detain his companions by giving them the lotus to eat. Whoever ate of this fruit wished never again to depart to see his native country. This poetical idea is known also to the Arabs, who call it the "fruit of destiny," which is to be eaten in Paradise, and it has been exquisitely wrought out by Tennyson in his poem, "The Lotus-Eaters."

OMNIBUS BILL—ELECTORAL VOTES.

RED OAK, Iowa.
1. What was the "omnibus bill"? 2. How many votes make an electoral vote? 3. How are they counted? If a State having eleven electoral votes stands five Democratic and six Republican are all counted for the Republicans?
J. E. WHEELAN.

Answer.—1. At the end of almost every session of Congress it is found necessary to pass a bill made up of all sorts of elements, and from its miscellaneous character it received this name. 2. There are just as many electoral votes as a State has Senators and members of Congress; there being one electoral vote for every member of Congress and two electors-at-large, to correspond with the United States Senators. 3. No. In 1860 New Jersey's vote was 4 for Lincoln and 3 for Douglas.

"STUMPING" AND "STUMP-SPEAKING."

STAFFORD, Kan.
I am puzzled to know where the word "stump" originated, as applied to public speakers. There having been some inquiry made here, and it not being answered, I submit it to you.
A. DECKER.

Answer.—It was the custom of the early campaigners in a political canvass to travel through the country and make out-door speeches to the people who gathered to hear them. Platforms were as rare as commodious halls, and the stumps of trees were convenient places from which political speeches were delivered. Hence arose the phrase a "stump-speaker," a "stump-orator," and "stumping."

TRADE TOPICS.

1. Believers in free trade say that sewing-machines and other articles of United States manufacture are sold for less in Canada and Great Britain than here. 2. What is the tariff on the chief articles of commerce? 3. Which treats on the most subjects of the following encyclopedias: Appleton, Johnson, Britannica, or Chambers?
A. W. PARSONS.

Answer.—1. Free traders circulate many statements of this kind, most of which are false, though a few are true; but the procedure of selling abroad at less prices than at home rests upon sound business principles, and is not, in any comprehensive view, hurtful to the interests of American consumers. For instance, the manufacturer of a certain article finds that his establishment will produce a given quantity if run to its full capacity. By thus utilizing to the largest extent the operative power of his capital and his machinery, the cost of producing each article is lessened, and he is enabled, not only to meet more energetically the competition

of his rivals, but also to sell the article at a lower price than before, yet realize a reasonable rate of profit. He discovers, however, one serious obstacle to the adoption of this plan—he sees that he will have a surplus on his hands above the wants of his customers, reckoned on the basis of some years of business. What is he to do with that surplus. If he holds it for the next season, a still larger surplus will be accumulated at the end of that season, and, in time, he might have in his warehouse a full year's supply ahead. If he forces his surplus upon the home market, it will be deranged, and legitimate prices broken down. That result would be worse for him than to go on in his old course. Finally, he concludes to carry out his plan by exporting his surplus, and by selling it in foreign countries even under cost price, if necessary, to realize upon the dead capital invested in it. In that case, although the American consumer may pay more for the article than the foreigner pays, the former will pay less than he would have done if the manufacturer had not adopted his new plan of operating his establishment to its utmost power of production. Very little of this sort of thing is done, however, in the United States. Just now a broad general principle stands in the way—the principle that *there is no general tendency to export anything until the home demand is fully satisfied, and an excess remains to seek a market elsewhere.* Hard times may diminish the home demand, still nothing will be exported except what would surfeit that demand, be it languid or active. Brazil exports coffee and China exports tea, because each has more than enough of its special commodity for the satisfaction of its own wants. For this reason Great Britain exports iron and steel products, cottons, woollens, tin-plate, linens, and other manufactures. For this reason France exports silks, beet sugar, chemicals, and fancy articles; the United States, breadstuffs, provisions, raw cotton, and tobacco; Australia, wool; Cuba, cane sugar; and so on to the end of the chapter. This rule is of universal application, embracing absolutely all articles except gold and silver, which a nation may have to export, in settlement of an adverse balance of trade, even when the people have not enough for their own convenience as a circulating medium. Now, our domestic manufactures, with very few exceptions, such as watches, sewing-machines, agricultural implements, coarse cotton goods, and some other fabrics, are not so developed and extended as to flush the channels of the home trade, and thus perforce run over into the channels of foreign commerce. In his speech, Feb. 18, 1881, in the House of Representatives, the Hon. William D. Kelley said touching this subject:

"Under the ordinary conditions of trade we export but few manufactured commodities. The volume increases from year to year, but our exports of manufactured goods consist generally of specialties, in the production of which we excel all others. Our home market is the best in the world, and we have not the producing capacity to supply the wants of American consumers, as is attested by our immense consumption of for-

eign staple goods. Yet the expediency of unloading their surplus stock of goods in foreign markets is not unknown to our manufacturers and merchants. During the financial depressions which followed the demonetization of silver by Germany and the United States, and our enactment of a law to reduce the volume of our circulating Treasury notes to \$300,000,000, our manufacturers, perceiving the steady diminution of their home market, and consequent decline of prices, sought relief from an export trade, and month by month announcements, sometime official, and always of a flaming character, were made of our increasing exports of manufactured goods. When leisure afforded opportunity, I sought many of these consigners of goods, and found that they were availing themselves of the teachings of older nations, and of ordinary commercial prudence. 'No,' said one of the most intelligent of these exporters, in response to my question as to whether the foreign market was a real one, 'to force sales of our goods at home would be to further depress an already unremunerative market. We are making our losses abroad, and sharing them with those who usually supply the countries to which we ship, whether they be Germans, French, or English. We are sacrificing our goods where others will share our loss, instead of further depressing our own market.' The truth of these statements was proven by the fact that, with the renewal of our domestic trade, our unusual export of American manufactures ceased.'

But all alleged by free-traders on the subject, even were all the allegations sincere and true, does not weaken the expediency of tariff protection, unless it also weakens the expediency of free trade, because no country in the world practices so much as England the policy of selling abroad cheaper than she sells at home. This is because she has a large surplus of nearly every sort of manufactures, and exports two-thirds of all she manufactures, on an average, retaining only one-third, which satisfies her domestic demand. The argument of the free-traders applies, therefore, a thousand fold more against British free trade than it does against United States protection. 2. The average rate on all dutiable imports for our home consumption in fiscal year 1879 was 44.87 per cent. A detailed list would require several columns of our paper. Write to Joseph Nimmo, Jr., Chief of Bureau of Statistics, Washington, D. C., saying that you are studying the tariff question, and describing what you want, and he will send you a pamphlet containing a list of articles, with duties on each. 3. Britannica.

QUESTIONS ABOUT IRELAND.

CHICAGO.
Will you please answer a few questions on this all important question of Irish representation: 1. What is the per capita representation of Ireland and England in Parliament? 2. Are there any "pocket boroughs" in Ireland? 3. Can British subjects purchase lands in England and Ireland on equal terms?

ALEX. McDONALD.

Answer.—1. There are two ways of figuring on this question of representation in the British Parliament; one is, to take the aggregate population, as is done in the United States when Con-

gressional districts are mapped out; the other is to take the number of electors and see from them what the representation may be. From the latest census at hand we find the population of Great Britain to be as follows:

England.....	21,495,131
Wales.....	1,217,135
Scotland.....	3,360,018
Ireland.....	5,411,416

Making this aggregate of the population the basis of calculation, we have an average of one member of Parliament to 46,829 persons as the representation in England and Wales. In Scotland there is an average of one member of Parliament to 56,000 people. In Ireland there are 105 members who represent it in the House of Commons, or one member to 51,442 persons. It appears, however, from the annual return made by order of the House of Commons, that in June, 1878, the total number of electors in the English counties was 797,494, and in the counties of Wales 66,272, in all 863,766; in the cities and boroughs, England had 1,472,164 electors, and Wales 67,441, in all 1,539,605; and in the counties, cities, and boroughs a grand total of 2,403,371. The total number of Parliamentary electors furnished by the universities increase the figures just given to 2,416,222, so that we have in England and Wales one member of Parliament to 4,982 electors. At the same time these figures were taken, Scotland had 304,268 electors and sixty members of Parliament, or one member to 5,071 electors. In Ireland there were, according to these returns, 231,515 electors and 105 members of Parliament, or one member to 2,205 electors. It is contended by Irish reformers that the number of electors in Ireland should be greatly increased. 2. We are informed that there are now no "pocket boroughs" in Ireland, 3. If we understand the question, which is not very clear, yes.

"GABRIEL GRUBB."

HILLSDALE, Mich.

Please inform me in what work the character of "Gabriel Grubb" is to be found? JENNIE FIFE.

Answer.—Consult the "Pickwick Papers." Gabriel Grubb was the hero of Mr. Wardle's "Story of the Goblins Who Stole a Sexton." He is a cross-grained, surly, solitary fellow, who is made good-natured and contented by his remarkable experiences on Christmas eve.

GIRARD COLLEGE.

Please give short account of the origin, present standing, and financial condition of the Girard College, Pa. W. W. KNOWLES.

Answer.—Girard College, at Philadelphia, was founded by the bequest of more than \$2,000,000 left by Stephen Girard. It is for the benefit of poor white male orphans, who are admitted between the ages of 6 and 10, and, according to the will of the founder, are to be apprenticed to some industrial occupation when between the ages of 14 and 18. The buildings are situated in a fine inclosure of forty-one acres, the main building being in the Corinthian style and one of the finest architectural works in the United States. This structure is 111 feet wide by 169 feet long, is surrounded by a range of fluted columns, eight on each end

and 11 on each side, including the corner columns. The total height of the building is 97 feet, the weight of the roof being estimated at over 969 tons. In the south vestibule, in a sarcophagus, rest the remains of Stephen Girard, surmounted by his statue. There are four marble buildings, two on each side of the main building, devoted to pupils and used as residences. The whole of the grounds are inclosed by a solid stone wall ten feet in height. Visitors are admitted by tickets to the institution every day except Sundays. Clergymen cannot, under any circumstances, be admitted to the institution, such having been the absolute will of Mr. Girard. Those pupils admitted must be "poor, white, male orphans, between the ages of 6 and 10 years when admitted to the institution, giving the preference, first, to those born within the bounds of the (old) city of Philadelphia; secondly, to those born in Pennsylvania; thirdly, to those born in New York; and, lastly, to those born in New Orleans."

LANDOWNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa.

Please state who is the largest land-owner in Great Britain. A friend claims that there is one who owns a million acres. H. LIPMAN.

Answer.—This inquiry is of so much interest at the present time, that we publish the following list of "thirty-four persons in the United Kingdom who are owners of above 100,000 acres," which is taken from the *Manchester Examiner*:

Owner.	Acres.	Owner.	Acres.
Argyll.....	174,114	Leconfield.....	110,720
Atholl.....	194,640	Lovat.....	161,574
Evan Baillie.....	165,648	Macdonald.....	129,919
Breadalbane.....	372,279	R. S. Mackenzie.....	164,680
Buccleuch.....	459,260	McIntosh.....	124,181
Don'td Cameron.....	121,574	A. Matheson.....	120,433
Cawdor.....	101,657	J. Matheson.....	424,560
J. S. Chisholm.....	113,255	Middleton.....	106,462
Cleveland.....	102,774	Montrose.....	103,760
Conyngham.....	173,314	Northumberland.....	185,515
Dalhousie.....	138,021	Richmond.....	286,407
Devonshire.....	193,381	C. W. Ross.....	166,866
Downshire.....	122,995	Schofield.....	305,891
J. R. Farguharson.....	109,561	Sligo.....	122,992
Fife.....	257,652	Sutherland.....	129,125
Fitzwilliam.....	113,963	Waterford.....	109,234
Kenmore.....	105,359	Wiltoughby d'Erlesby.....	132,320

THE TWO BARNUMS.

BONAPARTE, Iowa.

My neighbor says Barnum, the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is the great showman Barnum. I differ with him, and contend it is another person. Please inform me which of us is right. If I am right, please give a short biographical sketch of Chairman Barnum. W. F. L. MUIR.

Answer.—P. T. Barnum is the showman, and Wm. H. Barnum was the Chairman of the Democratic hosts last fall. Wm. H. Barnum was born in Columbia County, New York, Sept. 17, 1818, received a public school education, and latterly has been extensively engaged in iron manufactures. In 1868, 1872, and 1876 he was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions, and in 1872 he was elected a member of the National Democratic Committee, and has been a member of the Executive Committee since that time, and from May, 1877, he was Chairman of the committee. In the years 1851-52 Mr. Barnum was a member of the State Legislature; was a member of the Fortieth, Forty-first, Forty-second, Forty-third, and Forty-fourth Congresses, and was

elected to the United States Senate, as a Democrat, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Senator O. S. Ferry, Republican, and took his seat May 22, 1876. Senator Barnum's term expired March 3, 1879, and he was succeeded by Orville H. Platt, Republican, who took his seat March 18, 1879.

THE WHEAT CROP.

MELROSE, Wis.
To settle a dispute, please give the amount of wheat grown in five of the Western States for the last four years as compared with Illinois. A. K. JAMES.

Answer.—The official figures of the wheat crop for 1880 have not all been announced. From those already published, it is seen that Illinois produced last year 53,767,200 bushels, and Indiana 38,341,990. The figures for the three preceding years are as follows:

States.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Illinois.....	33,000,000	31,620,000	44,896,830
Iowa.....	37,810,000	30,440,960	32,786,880
Michigan.....	21,890,000	27,889,200	28,773,120
Wisconsin.....	22,000,000	21,154,400	20,565,720
Minnesota.....	33,324,346	28,824,000	31,886,520
Indiana.....	24,600,000	33,136,000	43,709,960

ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS.

WEST POINT, Neb.
Give a short biography of A. J. Davis, the spiritualist, and tell whether he is living at present. H. W. S.

Answer.—Andrew Jackson Davis was born at Blooming Grove, Orange County, N. Y., Aug. 11, 1826, of very poor parents, and passed his youth in various labors. He had little schooling, and when in his teens was apprenticed to a shoemaker in Poughkeepsie. Early in 1843 William Livingston, of that city, developed in Davis, by mesmerism, what are said to have been extraordinary powers, and he discoursed learnedly on medical, psychological, and scientific subjects, and began the treatment of the diseased, giving diagnoses and perscriptions while in the magnetic trance. On March 7, 1844, during a trance of sixteen hours' duration, he conversed, as he claimed, with invisible beings, and received intimations and instructions about the position he was later to occupy as a "teacher from the interior State." In November, 1845, he dictated to the Rev. William Fishbough, at New York, while clairvoyant, his first and most considerable work, "The Principles of Nature, Her Divine Revelations, and A Voice to Mankind." His subsequent works have been very generally on the subject of spiritualism. He lives, we believe, in New Jersey.

AREA OF IRELAND AND ILLINOIS.

No. 161 WAUBANSIA AVENUE, CHICAGO.
Will you please decide an arguement? Which is the largest, Ireland or the State of Illinois?

SUBSCRIBER.
Answer. The area of Ireland is 32,531 square miles; Illinois, area, 55,410 square miles.

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

PATON, Green County, Iowa.
1. What per cent of the people of the United States cannot read or write? 2. Did Greece ever have compulsory education?

Answer.—It is estimated that about 10 per cent of the people of the United States are unable to read or write. 2. In Greece, public instruction has been much attended to in recent

years, but the educational state of the people is said to be very low. In 1834 communal schools were established by law, on the German system, that is, on the system of compulsory education. By the sixth article of the law, all children between the ages of 7 and 12 years must attend the communal school. Parents are liable to a fine for each hour that the child is absent, but the penalty has fallen into disuse.

TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

WEBSTER CITY, Iowa.
1. Has the United States ever coined \$50 gold pieces. 2. By the treaty of Washington, did England abandon the right of search, and so state the fact? Taylor's "Model History" says so. I. M. NORTON.

Answer.—1. Not that we are aware of. In California these was the \$50 octagon, coined for purposes of trade in the days when there was more "dust" than coin, and when there was need of some coin that would pass current and aid the commercial world. 2. Great Britain did, in fact, abandon the principle of the right of search, but so far as the treaty itself is concerned, there is no mention made of it.

QUESTIONS OF GEOGRAPHY.

BENTON HARBOR, Mich.
Please answer the following: 1. Whether San Francisco is east or west of the center of our national domain, and how far? 2. Whether Chicago is north or south of said center, and how far? 3. Whether the mouth of the St. Joseph River, in Michigan, is east or west of the center of the State, and how far. R. C. T.

Answer.—1. If Alaska be taken into account—and the inquiry supposes it is—then San Francisco is about twelve degrees west of the center of United States territory. 2. Under the same state of the case, Chicago is twelve or thirteen degrees south of the center. 3. The mouth of St. Joe River is about midway between the eastern and western boundaries of the State of Michigan.

THE ANDES MOUNTAINS.

GREENVILLE, Ill.
Will you please give the height of the highest peak of the Andes Mountains, as authorities differ? HATTIE V. HARRISON.

Answer.—Professor Orton says that Aconcagua is the culminating point in the Andes system, and the highest mountain in the new world. Its height was computed by Captain Beechey from its angle at Valparaiso to be 23,910 feet, but the more exact measurement of M. Pissis makes it 22,422.

RICHMOND AND VICKSBURG.

No. 70 MADISON STREET, Chicago.
1. How long was General Grant in command of the Army of the Potomac prior to the fall of Richmond? 2. How long was General Grant in the trenches in front of Richmond prior to its fall? 3. Did General Grant capture Richmond or did General Lee evacuate, leaving it undefended? 4. Did General Grant demand and receive an unconditional surrender before his capture of Vicksburg? If so, when? 5. Was the surrender of Vicksburg an unconditional surrender? INQUIRER.

Answer.—General Grant became, by President Lincoln's order, issued March 9, 1864, Lieutenant General, and was invested with the chief command of all the armies of the United States. The same day he paid, to quote Greeley, a flying visit to the Army of the Potomac. On March 17 he assumed command, announcing that his headquarters would be in the field, and, until further orders, with the Army of the Potomac. 2 and 3. The defenses of the city of Richmond had been made very strong in front, and General Grant decided to lay siege to Petersburg, in the rear of the rebel capital. Several strong demonstrations had been made against Richmond dur-

ing this siege, but the exterior lines were never carried, and the interior lines were not even seen. April 2 General Grant ordered a general assault on Petersburg, and the works were carried, and that night Lee's army and the rebel government quitted Richmond, and the Union forces entered the city early the next day. 4. General Grant required an unconditional surrender, and then General Pemberton wanted several things, such as "his men paroled, and marched beyond our lines with eight days rations drawn from their own stores, (they applied to our Commissary for rations next day); the officers to retain their private property and their body-servants." There was further correspondence which resulted in General Grant making some conditions, and then the rebels surrendered. 5. Several historians state that the rebels surrendered unconditionally. This is an error, but as General Grant himself wrote of the terms of the surrender: "These terms I regarded more favorable to the government than an unconditional surrender. It saved us the transportation of them North, which at that time would have been very difficult, owing to the limited amount of river transportation on hand, and the expense of subsisting them. It left our army free to operate against Johnston, who was threatening us from the direction of Jackson, and our river transportation to be used for the movement of troops to any point the exigency of the service might require."

JOHN THE BAPTIST.

ST. ANNE, ILL.

Please state why John the Baptist went into the wilderness.

L. H. P.

Answer.—Several facts are to be borne in mind in regard to John, the forerunner of the Master. A single verse contains all we know of "the voice of one" for thirty years, the whole period which elapsed between his birth and the time when his public ministry began: "The child grew and waxed strong in the spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his showing unto Israel." (Luke, i.) He was a child of prophecy, and from that, as well as a verse from the opening chapter of Luke's gospel, we may remember that he was ordained to be a Nazarite from his birth (see Numbers, vi.), and the heavenly messenger announced that "he shall drink neither wine nor strong drink." The term Nazarite is derived from a Hebrew word signifying "to separate," and a Nazarite, under the ancient law, was one engaged by a peculiar vow, which, as stated, required total abstinence from wine and all intoxicating liquors, that the hair should be allowed to grow without being shorn, and that all contamination with dead bodies should be avoided. When the time of Nazariteship had expired the person brought an offering to the temple, the priest cut off his hair and burnt it, and then, after that, the Nazarite was free from his vow, and might again drink wine. There were, however, perpetual Nazarites, and it is probable John belonged to this class. From the announcement made regarding John, we are to understand, probably, that the chosen forerunner of the Messiah and herald of His kingdom was re-

quired to forego the ordinary pleasures and indulgences of the world, and live a life of strict self-denial in retirement and solitude. The apocryphal "Protevangelium of James," chapter 22, states that John's mother, in order to secure him from the murder of the children at Bethlehem, which Herod commanded, fled with him into the desert. She could find no place of refuge, and the mountain opened at her request, and gave the needed shelter in its bosom. Zacharias, being questioned by Herod as to where his son was to be found, and refusing an answer, was slain by the tyrant. At a later period Elizabeth died, when angels took the youth under their care. It was thus that the Nazarite, dwelling by himself in the wild and thinly populated region westward of the Dead Sea, called "desert," prepared himself, by self-discipline and constant communion with God, for the wonderful office to which he had been called. In this way the time passed until the hour of his work arrived, and when he appeared to his countrymen, his dress was that of the old prophets, a garment of camel's hair attached to the body by a leathern girdle. His birth, hard, ascetic life, reputation for extraordinary sanctity, and the generally prevailing expectation that some great one was about to appear, was sufficient to attract to him great multitudes, even without the aid of miracles. His preaching, with such an introduction, had a sudden effect, and many of all classes pressed forward to confess their sins and be baptized. This may serve to explain why John went into the wilderness.

THE SIAMESE TWINS.

HICKORY, Van Buren Co., Iowa.

To settle a dispute, please state where the Siamese twins were born, when married, to whom, where they died, if both died at the same time, where buried, and when.

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The Siamese twins, Eng and Chang, were born April 15, 1811, at Bangsan, Siam, of a Chinese father and a Chino-Siamese mother, and were brought to the United States in 1829. In 1842 they were married to two mulattoes, who were sisters, and they settled in Surry County, North Carolina. They died at their home near Mount Airy, N. C., Jan. 17, 1874. Chang was partially paralyzed in the fall of 1873, and thereafter he was fretful, very much debilitated, and addicted to the use of liquor, which he drank to alleviate his sufferings. He had been feeble for several days previous to his death, so that the brothers were confined to their bed. On Friday night, Jan. 16, Chang became worse, and at 4 o'clock the next morning he expired. Eng, when his brother died, became suddenly worse, and he followed Chang a few hours later to the land of the hereafter. A number of their children were deaf mutes. The bodies of the twins were embalmed, and a number of medical men made an extended post-mortem examination, to discover all that could be learned in the interest of medical science. One of the historians of the day thus speaks of the disposition of the remains: "There is no use of denying what has already been indirectly hinted at—namely, that from the time the twins passed from under the knife, they became the common

property of the world. When the last curious scrutiny of science shall have been satisfied, and when we scan no more the columns of the daily papers to learn the mysterious secrets of their union, the two, in public halls and theaters, will be exposed to view; and as the living journeyed from place to place, so will the dead hither and thither be freighted. The strict and stringent contract with the family indicates this, and every stage of the autopsy has been carried on with such intent. Once again the Siamese twins will appear to the world, not as living, breathing souls—a strange freak of nature—but as dull, and stark corpses—corpses rendered interesting only because of the sensation of a slow and weary post-mortem."

THE CONSTITUTIONAL UNION PARTY.

What stand did the Constitutional Union party of 1860 take in the issues of that campaign? O. F. M.

Answer.—The preamble of the Constitutional Union—Bell and Everett—platform, adopted at Baltimore, 1860, set forth that "experience has demonstrated that platforms adopted by the partisan conventions of the country have had the effect to mislead and deceive the people, and at the same time to widen the political divisions of the country, by the creation and encouragement of geographical and sectional parties." Then it proceeded to resolve that "it is both the part of patriotism and of duty to recognize no political principle other than the Constitution of the country the Union of the States, and the enforcement of the laws; and that, as representatives of the Constitutional Union men of the country in national convention assembled, we hereby pledge ourselves to maintain, protect, and defend, separately and unitedly, these great principles of public liberty and national safety, against all enemies, at home and abroad, believing that thereby peace may once more be restored to the country, the rights of the people and of the States re-established, and the government placed in that position of justice, fraternity, and equality which, under the example and constitution of our fathers, has solemnly bound every citizen of the United States to maintain a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and to our posterity."

GENERAL-IN-CHIEF.

1. Who superseded General Scott as General-in-chief? 2. Was McClellan ever General-in-chief? If not, what position did he hold? 3. Why did Congress have to pass an act before the title "General-in-chief" could be conferred on General Grant? W. TAYLOR.

Answer.—1. Greeley says that "though General Scott remained nominally in chief command until the last day of October (1861), he was practically superseded July 20, and the change which made General McClellan practically the General-in-chief was announced July 25. On the retirement of General Scott, Nov. 1, General McClellan was appointed General-in-chief of the armies of the United States. 2. This is answered by the preceding. 3. When did Congress ever pass an act "before the title General-in-chief could be conferred on General

Grant?" The record of Greeley reads: "The Hon. E. B. Washburne, of Illinois—the townsman and zealous friend of General Grant—having proposed the revival of the grade of Lieutenant General of our armies, hitherto accorded to George Washington alone (General Scott being only such by brevet), the House (of Representatives) assented, and adopted an amendment moved by Mr. Ross, of Illinois, respectfully recommending Ulysses S. Grant for the post. The Senate concurred—yeas, 31; nays, 6." This record is given, as there seems to be no end to the questions on this point.

RECKONING TIME.

Will you inform me when we commenced to reckon time? ST. ANNE, ILL.
L. H. P.

Answer.—When Christianity became predominant in the civilized world, writers began to date from various epochs in the history of the Savior. This custom was similar to that which had prevailed among the nations time out of mind. For a long period there was no fixed time from which dates were reckoned. Individuals would naturally count from the year of their birth, and rulers from the year of their accession. Then followed the custom of dating from some event of national importance; as, for example, the Romans for centuries dated from the founding of the Eternal City, and the Greeks from their Olympic games, which were celebrated every four years. It was natural, therefore, that Christian writers early in this era should date from various periods in the life of Christ. About the middle of the sixth century Dionysius Exiguus, a Roman churchman of Scythian birth, introduced the method of dating from the birth of Christ, which, according to his computation, took place in the fourth year of the 194th Olympiad, or the 753d from the founding of Rome. It is generally admitted that he placed this event about four years too late. If it were possible to ascertain the precise time of the creation, it would be the natural starting point from which to date. From the Christian era to this day the date of nearly every important event is settled beyond a question within a year or two.

NUMBER OF POSTOFFICES.

1. Please state how many postoffices there are in the United States. 2. Is there such a thing as a real live mermaid, or is it a myth? WATERLOO, IOWA.
EPHRAIM LICHLY.

Answer.—1. The number of postoffices in the United States is constantly changing; there are new offices established, some old ones are discontinued, and there is scarcely a day that does not note some difference in the figures. In round numbers, however, there are 45,600 offices in the United States. 2. Some of the earlier writers give particular accounts of mermen and mermaids being seen by sailors and others, especially in the seas around the island of Taprobane, now known as Ceylon. In the middle ages there was frequent mention made by writers, travelers, and others of mermen and maids, seen all the way from the East Indies to the banks of Newfoundland. Not long ago a "mermaid," from the coast of Japan or China, was exhibited in Chicago by an enterprising person, but it was a very unhealthy looking mummy of the ocean, with a

cloudy pedigree and unhandsome appearance. Mermaids have been modernized by the wonderful sea-serpent, which shows itself periodically in all waters, and in several places at the same time.

THE POET SWINBURNE.

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.

1. Please state what year and what day of the month Harrison was elected President of the United States.
2. Give a short biographical sketch of Swinburne.

CARRIE BELL.

Answer.—1. Most of the States held their elections on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1840. 2. Algernon Charles Swinburne is the son of Admiral Charles Henry Swinburne and Lady Jane Henrietta, daughter of George, third Earl of Ashburnham, and grandson of Sir John Edward Swinburne, Bart. of Northumberland. The poet was born in Chester street, Grovesnor Place, London, April 5, 1837. In the year 1857 he entered at Balliol College, Oxford, but left the university without taking a degree. He afterward visited Florence, and spent some time with Walter Savage Landor. His first productions, "The Queen Mother" and "Rosamond," two plays, published in 1861, attracted but little attention. Several other efforts followed, that of 1866, "Poems and Ballads," being very severely criticized and leading to a kind of literary warfare. His other works since then have appeared in rapid succession.

NATIONS WITH A PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

WESTERN SPRINGS, Ill.

What nations have had a protective tariff, and what nation was the originator of the protective system?

J. Q. ADAMS.

Answer.—France, Russia, Germany, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Australia, the United States, Canada, and Mexico, with many other countries, have protective tariffs. Even Great Britain's tariff is protective in some respects. If other nations would adopt the foreign-trade policy which she recommends for their adoption, she would soon be seated on the highest pinnacle of national greatness ever attained in history. Protective tariffs in other countries offer an insuperable obstacle to such an attainment; hence she is fiercely hostile to such tariffs everywhere; nevertheless they are constantly increasing in number and in vigor. The precise object of British statesmen in desiring the extension of the system of free importation is to encourage their own domestic manufactures. But mark the difference in the operation of this principle under the different circumstances of Great Britain and the United States. As respects the former country, whose capital is exceedingly abundant, and where almost every branch of reproductive industry is developed to an unprecedented extent, the effect of the general introduction of the principle would be to facilitate the entrance of British manufactures into foreign markets. As respects other countries, which are differently circumstanced, and especially the United States, the effect would be to facilitate the entrance of foreign manufactures into the domestic market of each and all. In the former case, it would encourage home manufactures; in the latter, it would destroy them. That is why Great Britain wants free trade adopted everywhere; but that is the reason why the United States should reject

the policy. We have nothing to gain by destroying our manufactures. Can it be maintained, with a shadow of plausibility, that a principle which, under different circumstances, produces such directly opposite results, is to be applied indiscriminately throughout the world, without any consideration of the actual situation of particular countries? Between nations there is no such thing as free trade in all the world. Ireland comes the nearest to being a free-trade country, and the Irish are the most miserable and the most impoverished and the most helpless people on the face of the globe. Turkey comes next nearest to being a free-trade country, and Turkey stands upon the perilous edge of a catastrophe likely to blot her name from the list of self-governed states. Portugal comes next nearest to being a free-trade country, and Portugal, once so powerful in the councils of Europe, is among the most insignificant of nations. It is not known what people of ancient times first practiced the protective system; but the first in modern times is England.

A PRESIDENTIAL PUZZLE.

CLINTON JUNCTION, Wis.

Should the person who received a majority of the votes for President in the Electoral College die or otherwise become ineligible between the time of casting such vote and March 4, 1881, what course may be taken for making a President? "In case of the death of President Hayes and Vice President Wheeler, any time before their successors are elected and qualified, who would be President and who the Vice President?" Is there any law governing in such an event? If so, please give it.

F. A. AMES.

Answer.—The Vice President would become the President, should the person elected President die or in any way become ineligible between the time of the meeting of the Electoral College and the following March 4. In regard to the other proposition we quote Section 9 of the act of March 1, 1792: "And be it further enacted, that in case of removal, death, or resignation, inability ~~both~~ of the President and Vice President of the United States, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and in case there shall be no President of the Senate, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the time being, shall act as President of the United States until the disability be removed or a President shall be elected."

THE BOERS.

MARION CENTER, Kan.

1. How is the word "Thames" pronounced? 2. What does the word "Boer" mean?

G. G.

Answer.—1. The word is pronounced "temz," short sound of "e." 2. The word "boer" is from the Dutch, and means a peasant, and is applied to the Dutch colonists of Southern Africa. The Boers have a singular character, combining the steadiness and deliberation of the Dutch with great energy and daring. They have from the beginning of this century been earnestly and consistently opposed to the efforts of Great Britain to Anglicize their part of South Africa.

DID PHARAOH PERISH IN THE RED SEA?

BARABOO, Wis.

Are there any passages in the Bible where it definitely states that Pharaoh, personally, was destroyed in the Red Sea?

INQUIRER.

Answer.—In the CXXXVI. Psalm, 15th verse, is a statement which seems clear enough. In this connection may be noted a statement made by Dr. Philip Schaff in his "Dictionary of the Bi-

ble." "The Pharaoh of the exodus, before whom Moses wrought his miracles, perished with his army in the pursuit of the Israelites."

CORN FACTS.

FARRAGUT, IOWA.

What State ranks first as a corn-growing State? What constitutes high mixed corn in market? Which of the two States, Iowa or Kansas, ships the most No. 1 corn? What kind of corn is No. 1 corn? G. D.

Answer.—Illinois stands at the head of corn-growing States. From an excellent authority in Chicago we have the following: "No No. 1 corn received here. Iowa shipped the most corn." The rules in Illinois governing the inspection of No. 1 corn are as follows:

"No. 1 yellow corn shall be yellow, sound, dry, plump, and well cleaned.

"No. 1 white corn shall be white, sound, dry, plump, and well cleaned.

"No. 1 corn shall be sound, dry, plump, and well cleaned. White and yellow, unmixed with red.

"High mixed corn shall be three-quarters yellow, and equal to No. 2 in condition and quality."

FASTEST RUNNING TIME.

COODEY'S BLUFF, I. T.

To settle a dispute, please give the fastest time on record of a running horse, one-half mile and one mile. J. T. SMITH.

Answer.—The fastest half mile recorded to December, 1880, was made by Olitipa, at Saratoga, N. Y., July 25, 1874; time, 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ seconds. The fastest mile recorded was that made by Ten Broeck, at Louisville, Ky., May 24, 1877; time, 1:39 $\frac{3}{4}$.

FACTS ABOUT FRANCE.

AUTORA, III.

Will you please give a short synopsis of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the republic of France, their several powers and duties, as at present organized? D.

Answer.—Beginning with the source of power, as seen in France to-day, we observe that the sovereignty of the people is now represented by three agencies, namely: the Chamber of Deputies, the Senate, and the President of the republic. The Deputies are elected by universal suffrage; that is, the only requisite to be an elector is to be possessed of citizenship and to be of the age of 21 years; while the only requisite to be a Deputy is to be a citizen and 25 years of age. Each district, or "arrondissement," sends a Deputy to the Chamber if its population does not exceed 100,000, and an additional deputy for every 100,000 inhabitants, or fraction of that number. The Senate consists of 300 members, of whom 75 hold their seats for life, the vacancies to be filled by the choice of the Senate; the remaining 225 seats are divided by lot into three classes, of 75 each, one class going out at successive periods of three years: these latter are elected by special bodies, formed, in each department and in the colonies, by the Deputies, the general councillors, the councillors of "arrondissement," and a delegate of each municipal council. They hold office, as intimated, for nine years, and are renewed every three years. The President of the republic is chosen for seven years by the Senate and Chamber of Deputies voting together, and is ineligible for re-election. He promulgates the laws when they have been voted by the two Chambers; he watches over and insures the

execution of them; he has the right to pardon; he has the command of the land and sea forces; but cannot declare war without the advice of the Chambers; he makes treaties of peace, alliance, and commerce, nominates to all government offices, and has the power to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, with the sanction of the Senate. The Ministers as a body are responsible to the Chambers for the general policy of the government, and individually for their personal acts. The executive department of the government is administered by the President and his ministers. Judicial proceedings may be classed under civil, commercial, and criminal jurisdictions: there are, besides, some special departments, such as military and marine tribunals, councils of discipline, and the "cour des comptes." In civil matters every caution has a "jugé de paix," whose decision is final when the amount in dispute does not exceed 100 francs. A tribunal of first instance, or primary court, is established in every arrondissement, and its decision may be appealed for sums above 1,500 francs. The "cours d'appel" decide the action when the sentence of the first court has been appealed from. Tribunals of commerce to decide disputed points arising out of business transactions are instituted in all the more important commercial towns, and consist of judges chosen from among the leading merchants and elected by their fellows; for sums above 1,500 francs there can be appeal from their decision: in small towns the judges of the civil tribunal decide such commercial cases. The courts of criminal jurisdiction are of three kinds, the tribunals of ordinary police (the justice of the peace in each canton) have the cognizance of small offenses, punishable by a fine not exceeding fifteen francs or by imprisonment not exceeding five days. Offenses of a more serious character, which French law calls "delits," are judged by a special section of the tribunals of first instance, bearing the name of "tribunal correctionnel." Offenses which rank as crimes are judged by the "cour d'assises," consisting of three magistrates and twelve jurors. Above these various tribunals the Court of Cassation stands supreme. It is held at Paris, and is composed of three chambers—the "chambre des requêtes," the "chambre civile," and the "chambre criminelle." Its province is to decide in all appeals from other courts, investigating not the facts of the case but the forms of law, and ordering, whenever they have been infringed or deviated from, a new trial, before such other tribunal as it thinks fit. It may be said, regarding criminal suits, that the first inquiry is confided to a special magistrate attached to the tribunal, called "juge d'instruction;" he conducts the necessary examination privately and with almost absolute power.

WOOL IMPORTATIONS.

LINCOLN, Kan.

1. What amount of wool did we import for each of the past years, 1879 and 1880? 2. Value of imported woolen goods, yarns, and manufactured products of sheep for the same time. S.

Answer.—1. In year ending June 30, 1879, only 39,005,155 pounds, invoiced at \$5,034,543;

in year ending June 30, 1880, as much as 123,131,747 pounds, invoiced at \$23,727,650. 2. In fiscal year 1879, 24,355,321; in fiscal year 1880, \$23,911,093.

DUTIES OF CABINET OFFICERS.

GLENDAL, Ill.
Please state what are the duties of each member of the President's Cabinet. Does the Cabinet act independent of the President?
W. C. HEMPHILL.

Answer.—The Secretary of the Treasury has charge of the national finances. He digests and prepares plans for the improvement and management of the revenue and support of the public credit. He superintends the collection of the revenue and prescribes the forms of keeping and rendering all public accounts, and making returns; grants all warrants for money to be issued from the Treasury, in pursuance of appropriations by law; makes reports, and gives information to either branch of Congress, as may be required, respecting all matters referred to him by the Senate or House of Representatives, and generally performs all such services relative to the finances as he is directed to perform; controls the erection of public buildings, the coinage and printing of money, the collection of commercial statistics, the marine hospitals, the revenue-cutter service, the life-saving service. Under his superintendence the Light-house Board discharges the duties relative to the construction, illumination, inspection, and superintendence of light-houses, light-vessels, beacons, buoys sea-marks, and their appendages; makes provision for the payment of the public debt under enactments of Congress, and publishes statements concerning it, and submits to Congress at the commencement of each session estimates of the probable receipts and of the required expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year. The Secretary of War performs such duties as the President, who is the Commander-in-chief, may enjoin upon him, concerning the military service, and has the superintendence of the purchase of army supplies, transportation, etc. The Secretary of the Navy has the general superintendence of construction, manning, armament, equipment, and employment of vessels of war. The Secretary of the Interior is charged with the supervision of public business relating to patents for inventions; pensions and bounty lands; the public lands, including mines; the Indians; the census, when directed by law; the custody and distribution of public documents; and certain hospitals and eleemosynary institutions in the District of Columbia; he also exercises certain powers and duties in relation to the Territories. The Postmaster General has the direction and management of the Postoffice Department; he appoints all officers and employes of the department, except the three Assistant Postmasters General, who are appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate; appoints all postmasters whose compensation does not exceed \$1,000; makes postal treaties with foreign governments, by and with the advice and consent of the President; awards and executes contracts, and directs the management of the domes-

tic and foreign mail service. The Attorney General is the head of the Department of Justice and the chief law officer of the government; he represents the United States in matters involving legal questions; he gives his advice and opinion on questions of law when they are required by the President, or by the heads of the other executive departments, on questions of law arising upon the administration of their respective departments; he exercises a general superintendence and direction over United States attorneys and marshals in all judicial districts in the States and Territories; and he provides special counsel for the United States whenever required by any department of the government. Recently we gave a statement of the duties of the Secretary of State. In regard to questions of policy and matters of importance, they consult the President, and are often consulted by him.

THE NAUVOO WAR.

WANATAH, Ind.
Give as full a history of the Nauvoo war as time will permit.
S. N. HOWELL.

Answer.—This inquirer probably means the troubles at Nauvoo, Ill., between the Mormons and their "Gentile" neighbors. After removing from Manchester, N. Y., to Kirtland, Ohio, and from there to Missouri, the Mormons retired to Illinois, where they settled in the vicinity of Commerce, founding the city of Nauvoo. They had a charter granted them which made them almost entirely independent of the State, and for a time the "Saints" had everything about as they desired. Then divisions began to arise in their camp. Joseph Smith was charged with introducing the twin evil of slavery—the polygamy abomination. Says Robert Carter, in an article upon the subject: "Meantime Smith, in 1843 and 1844, made advances to so many women in Nauvoo, soliciting them to become his spiritual wives, that great uproar was created by the declarations of those whose virtue was proof against his attempts. Among others who rebelled and denounced him publicly was Mrs. Foster, wife of Dr. Foster. Her husband, together with William Law, and others who had been similarly outraged, renounced Mormonism, and commenced at Nauvoo the publication of a newspaper, the *Expositor*, to expose Smith. In the first number they printed the affidavits of sixteen women, to the effect that Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, and others, had endeavored to convert them to the spiritual wife doctrine, and to seduce them under the plea of having had special commission from heaven." This exposure caused intense excitement, and May 6, 1844, Smith and a crowd of adherents attacked the office of the journal named, and demolished it, destroying the presses and other contents of the building. Foster and Law took refuge in Carthage, the county seat, and obtained warrants for the arrest of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, and sixteen others. The warrant was served on Smith, but he refused to obey the summons, and the constable who had the papers was driven from Nauvoo. The county authorities called on the militia to enforce the law, and the Mormons armed themselves. The Governor of the State

finally persuaded the two Smiths to surrender and stand trial. They were committed to the Carthage Jail, and a guard stationed for their protection. June 27, at night, a mob attacked the jail, overpowered the guard, and fired upon the prisoners with rifles through a window and door. Hyrum Smith was shot dead. Joseph returned the fire with a revolver till his charges were exhausted, and then tried to escape through the window, but was shot as he leaped through it, and fell to the ground dead. In 1845 the charter of Nauvoo was repealed by the Illinois Legislature, and the Mormons began to make preparations to remove West. In 1846, early, they gathered in considerable numbers at Council Bluffs, Iowa, while those who remained at Nauvoo again became involved in trouble with their neighbors, and in September, 1846, the city was cannonaded for three days, and its inhabitants were driven out at the point of the bayonet.

FREE TEXT-BOOKS FOR PUPILS.

RENSELAER, IND.

Is there any State in the Union in which the text-books for the public schools are furnished by the State? If so, under what conditions, and with what results?

A. E. C.

Answer.—Fully two-thirds of the States have legal provisions by which State Boards of Education or other constituted authorities decide upon uniform text-books for use in schools within their jurisdiction. In several States the law permits the local authorities to purchase text-books to be furnished free to the pupils, but with the buying of such books the district or local board and not the State has to do. As to Wisconsin, for example, according to the last report of the Commissioner of Education, the following will be of interest: "The plan of purchasing text-books by the districts and then furnishing them free of charge to the pupils has given general satisfaction in most instances where it has been tried. It is thought to have decided advantage over all other modes of supplying these books to the pupils, provided sufficient care is exercised in the school boards in the purchase, distribution, and preservative of books." So far as we have any returns, the system, when tried, has generally been satisfactory. We are informed that in several towns in this State the local authorities have construed the law as giving them the power to purchase and furnish text-books to pupils free of cost. It is claimed for this plan that it is a saving to those families who move from one district to another; that it avoids the difficulties usually experienced at the opening of the school by children not being supplied by parents with the necessary text-books; it destroys the plea of careless or indigent parents that their children are not able to attend school because they have not obtained any books; and it is claimed that experience proves that this plan is the most economical, for less money is expended in the district for an adequate supply for the school, and the books thus loaned last longer than when owned by the pupils.

"UNCLE SAM."

WEYAUWEGA, WIS.

I saw in THE INTER OCEAN several times that "Uncle

Sam" Wilson was the person the United States Government was named after in 1830. I went to the city of Troy, N. Y., in 1833, and worked for Uncle Ned Wilson, a brother of "Uncle Sam" Wilson. I have often seen "Uncle Sam," and should think he was then past 70 years old. Was he the "Uncle Sam"?

THOMAS ROBERTS.

Answer.—Samuel Wilson was a beef inspector at Troy, N. Y., during the Revolutionary war, and was very popular with the men in his employ who always called him Uncle Sam. The boxes of provisions were shipped to a contractor named Elbert Anderson, and were marked "E. A., U. S." It is related that a joking workman was asked of what these letters were the abbreviations, and replied that he did not know unless they were for Elbert Anderson and "Uncle Sam." The joke was kept up, and spread, and afterwards it was said that all packages marked "U. S." were for "Uncle Sam."

CAPTAIN EADS.

HILLSBORO, WIS.

Please give the birthplace and residence of Captain James Eads, and the Christian name of his father.

W. C. EWING.

Answer.—James B. Eads was born at Lawrenceburg, Ind., May 28, 1820, and removed with his parents in 1829 to Louisville, Ky., and in 1833, on the death of his father, again removed to St. Louis. From 1839 to 1842 he served as clerk on a river steamboat on the Mississippi, and then entered a firm engaged in recovering sunken property, and in 1857 retired from business, with a fortune. When the slavery war broke out, in 1861, he built a number of iron-clad boats for service on the Mississippi, and since the "unpleasantness" has become known for his services as a civil engineer, in connection with bridge-building, the jetty system, and more recently the plan to convey vessels across the Isthmus of Panama by means of a railway constructed for the purpose. We are unable to give the name of Captain Eads' father.

"OUIDA."

PRINCETON, MO.

Please give a short biographical sketch of "Ouida."

E. D. GILES.

Answer.—Louisa De la Rame is an English novelist of French extraction on her father's side, and was born at Bury St. Edmunds—or St. Edmund's Bury, as the old writers call it—in the county of Suffolk, England, about the year 1840. At an early age she went with her mother and maternal grandmother to reside in London, and soon began, under the pseudonym of "Ouida," a child's mispronunciation of Louisa, to write for periodicals, and while still under age commenced her first novel in "Colburn's New Monthly Magazine;" this was "Granville de Vigne, a Tale of the Day," published separately, in 1863, under the title of "Held in Bondage." From that time "Ouida" has continued to publish her works, which have appeared in rapid succession. We believe she lives in Florence, and is said to be a woman of pronounced views, a lover of smart horses, and an indefatigable worker.

AUTHOR OF "THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS."

CHICAGO.

Did Miss Jane Porter write any books besides "The Scottish Chiefs" and "Thaddeus of Warsaw?"

R. P. M.

Answer.—Miss Porter was the author of a number

ber of works besides "The Scottish Chiefs" and "Thaddeus of Warsaw." She published her books in the following order: "Thaddeus of Warsaw," 1803; "Aphorisms of Sir Philip Sidney, with Remarks," 1807; "The Scottish Chiefs," 1810; "The Pastor's Fireside," 1815; "Duke Christian of Luneburgh; or, Traditions from the Hartz," 1824; "Houtercombe," in "Tales Round a Winter's Hearth," 1826; "The Field of Forty Footsteps," 1828; "Sir Edward Seaward's Narrative of his Shipwreck and Consequent Discovery of Certain Islands in the Caribbean Sea," published in 1831. Miss Porter also wrote a tragedy called "Switzerland," in which Charles Kean played the principal part. She was a contributor to many of the magazines and literary publications of her day, but most of her efforts in this department of literature are now lost to all but the few.

THE INAUGURAL BALL.

PONTIAC, ILL.
Who gets up the inaugural ball, and who gets the profits of it?
TOPSY.

Answer.—Leading public-spirited citizens of Washington generally hold a meeting some time previous to the inauguration of a President, and at this conference committees are chosen to take charge of different parts of the work of preparation for the ball. It is a quasi-official affair, and the notables from all over the country are invited to be present, and do attend. The moneys received are expended upon decorations, etc. Who ever heard of an inaugural ball paying expenses is a person who possesses more information than the whole of Congress and Washington combined. There is usually a wealthy banker or capitalist made Treasurer of the Inaugural Ball Committee, and this gentleman has been known to have the honor and privilege of paying a magnificent deficit when the business came to be settled up.

VARIATIONS OF THE COMPASS.

OTTAWA, ILL.
On Columbus' first voyage of discovery the history states that the needle changed its position; what was the cause?
WM. O'CONNOR.

Answer.—The compass is liable to err in its indications from causes, some of a local and others of a general nature. The variations are generally greatest when the vessel heads east or west, and least when she lies in the magnetic meridian. On certain lines upon the earth's surface, called lines of "no variation," the needle points toward the pole. Such a line at the present time passes near Wilmington, N. C., Charlottesville, Va., and Pittsburg, Pa. On the eastern side of this line the variation of the needle is toward the west, increasing in the amount with the distance from it. On the other side of the line of "no variation" the declination is toward the east.

CHALK AND CRAYON.

GLENDAL, ILL.
Please state what chalk is and how crayon is made.
W. C. H.

Answer.—Chalk is an earthy mineral, a form of soft limestone, and is mostly composed of the shells or carapaces of microscopic marine animals. Crayon is the name of a pencil of any kind in France, but applied more particularly in

this country, as in England, to pieces of charcoal and black, white, and red chalk, of a convenient size and shape, which are used for drawing on various kinds of paper, and for sketching cartoons or the outlines of paintings of considerable size on canvas. Crayons of various colors are also made by mixing vegetable and mineral coloring matter with pipe-clay or chalk, and giving consistency and adhesiveness to the mass by the addition of a little milk, gum-water, soap, or some similar substance.

COURT OF CLAIMS—"THE INTER OCEAN."

WHITE WILLOW, Kendall Co., Ill.
To settle a dispute, please answer the following questions: 1. Can suit be brought against the Government of the United States? 2. In what year was THE INTER OCEAN first published?
E. B. BULLOCK.

Answer.—1. While it is true in a certain sense that the United States cannot be made a defendant in a suit, yet such practically is not the fact. For the purpose of trying cases of persons who hold, or believe they hold, claims against the government, a court called the Court of Claims has been constituted by law. Certain classes of cases may be brought in to this court and be decided by it. The Revised Statutes of the United States give, in extenso, the composition, duties, powers, etc., of such court. 2. The first number of THE INTER OCEAN was issued Monday, March 25, 1872.

"SERMONS IN STONES."

HAMILTON, Ohio.
Will you be kind enough to tell me in what play of Shakespeare occurs the oft-quoted sentence, "Sermons in stones, books in running brooks," etc.?
F. L. ROSEMOND.

Answer.—In the first scene of Act 2 "As You Like It" will be found the following:
"Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life, exempt from public haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running
brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."

ACTING VICE PRESIDENTS.

KELLOGG, Iowa.
To settle a dispute please state who was Vice President when Fillmore was President, and also when Johnson was President.
W. R.

Answer.—When Fillmore became President, on the death of General Taylor, William Rufus King was elected President of the Senate, and (consult Greeley) during the latter part of Fillmore's administration David R. Atchison was President pro tem. of the Senate. The acting Vice Presidents during Andrew Johnson's term were Lafayette S. Foster and Benjamin F. Wade.

PRINCE ALBERT.

ERIE, Whiteside Co., Ill.
Please state when Prince Albert died?
CHAS. D. JOHN.

Answer.—Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emanuel, Prince Consort of Great Britain, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, died at Windsor Castle, Dec. 14, 1861.

CLASSIO LORE.

WARSAW, Kosciusko Co., Ind.
Who were the following: Damon, Pythias, Achilles, and Patroclus?
A SUBSCRIBER'S DAUGHTER.

Answer.—Damon and Pythias were two celebrated Syracusans whose names are always

joined as the types of true friendship. They were both Pythagoreans. Pythias was doomed to death by Dionysius, the elder, but requested to be temporarily respite in order to arrange his affairs, promising to procure a friend to take his place and suffer his punishment if he should not return. Pythias was allowed to depart, and Damon gave himself up to be his substitute. Before the time for the execution Pythias returned, and Dionysius set both of them free. Achilles, the hero of the Iliad, was the son of Peleus, King of the Myrmidons, in Phthiotis, in Thessaly, and was grandson of Eacus, and thus was third in descent from Zeus. His mother was the Goddess Thetis, daughter of Nereus. The story of the early life of Achilles is varied by different writers—one account is that his mother, fearing his early death, endeavored to save him by dipping him in the River Styx, whose waters had the property of rendering the human frame invulnerable. The heel by which she held Achilles was left untouched by the water, and remained the sole vulnerable point of the hero. He went to Troy, accompanied by his tutor, Phoenix, and his friend, Patroclus, and led the Myrmidons in fifty ships of war. He had a dispute with Agamemnon, before which he ravaged the country round about Troy, destroying many towns on the coast and in the interior. Briseis was his favorite female slave, whom he had captured at the sack of Lyrnessus, but Agamemnon claimed her. Achilles gave her up, but retired to his tent in wrath, and refused to take part in the operations against Troy. The Greeks became heavy sufferers in many ways, owing to the absence of Achilles from the field, but he remained firm in his resolve. Finally his friend Patroclus put on the armor of Achilles and showed himself to the Trojans, who believed that the son of Peleus had come, and fled in a panic. Patroclus pursued them, and was slain by the god-like Hector, the Trojan hero. Then Achilles, to avenge the death of Patroclus, reconciled himself with Agamemnon. Briseis was given back to him. Vulcan gave him a new suit of armor, and he entered again actively into the operations against the Trojans. At last he met Hector, whom he slew, and, tying the body to his chariot, dragged it into the camp of the Grecians. One account says that Achilles fell by the arrow of Paris, which was directed by Apollo at the vulnerable heel. Patroclus was a Greek legendary hero, the friend of Achilles, and the son of Menœcius of Opus. While a boy Patroclus accidentally killed Clysonymus, and, in consequence, was sent to the court of his relative, Peleus, and brought up with Achilles. He went to the siege of Troy, and came to his death as before stated.

THE WORLD'S SEVEN WONDERS.

OSMAN, McLean Co., Ill.
Please give a short description of the "Seven Wonders of the World."
HUGH R. PORTER,
ARMINOTON, Ill.
Will you please inform me as to what are the names of the "Seven Wonders of the World?"

W. P. MASON.

Answer.—The seven wonders of the world are:
The Pyramids, the Colossus of Rhodes, Diana's

Temple at Ephesus, the Pharos of Alexandria, the Hanging Gardens at Babylon, the Statue of the Olympian Jove, and the Mausoleum by Artemisia at Halicarnassus. The Pyramids are numerous, and space forbids anything like even a list of them. The great piles were constructed of blocks of red or syenitic granite, and of a hard, calcareous stone. These blocks were of extraordinary dimensions, and their transportation to the sites of the pyramids and their adjustment in their places, indicate a surprising degree of mechanical skill. The Great Pyramid covers an area of between twelve and thirteen acres. The masonry consisted originally of 89,028,000 cubic feet, and still amounts to about 82,111,000 feet. The present vertical height is 450 feet, against 479 feet originally, and the present length of the sides is 746 feet, against 764 feet originally. The total weight of the stone is estimated at 6,316,000,000 tons. The city of Rhodes was besieged by Demetrius Poliorcetes, King of Macedonia, but, aided by Ptolemy Soter, King of Egypt, the enemy were repulsed. To express their gratitude to their allies and to their tutelary deity, they erected a brazen statue to Apollo. It was 105 feet high, and hollow, with a winding staircase that ascended to the head. After standing fifty-six years, it was overthrown by an earthquake, 224 years before Christ, and lay nine centuries on the ground, and then was sold to a Jew by the Saracens, who had captured Rhodes, about the middle of the seventh century. It is said to have required 900 camels to remove the metal, and from this statement it has been calculated its weight was 720,000 pounds. The Temple of Diana at Ephesus was built at the common charge of all the Asiatic States. The chief architect was Chersiphon, and Pliny says that 220 years were employed in completing the temple, whose riches were immense. It was 425 feet long, 225 broad, and was supported by 127 columns of Parian marble (sixty feet high, each weighing 150 tons), furnished by as many kings. It was set on fire on the night of Alexander's birth by an obscure person named Erostratus, who confessed on the rack that the sole motive which prompted him was the desire to transmit his name to future ages. The temple was again built, and once more burned by the Goths in their naval invasion A. D., 256. The Pharos of Alexandria and the Hanging Gardens were described recently. The colossal statue of Jupiter in the temple of Olympia, at Elis, was by Phidias. It was in gold and ivory, and sat enthroned in the temple for 800 years, and was finally destroyed by fire about A. D. 475. From the best information it is believed that the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus was a rectangular building surrounded by an Ionic portico of thirty-six columns, and surmounted by a pyramid, rising in twenty-four steps, upon the summit of which was a colossal marble quadriga with a statue of Mausolus. This magnificent structure was erected by Artemisia, who was the sister, wife, and successor of Mausolus.

COAL—VOLTAIRE.

MITCHELLVILLE, Wis.

1. What is the difference between anthracite and

bituminous coal? 2. Please give a short biographical sketch of Voltaire?

MILTON P. MCNAMEE.

Answer.—1. Anthracite coal contains above 90 per cent of pure carbon, and burns with a very small amount of flame, producing intense local heat and no smoke. The American anthracite is used largely in iron smelting. The bituminous coals are so called from their property of softening or undergoing an apparent fusion when heated to a temperature far below that at which actual combustion takes place. The proportion of carbon in bituminous coals may vary from 80 to 90 per cent, the amount being the highest as they approach the character of the anthracite, and the least in those which are nearest to lignites. 2. Francis Marie Arouet de Voltaire was born at Paris Feb. 20, 1694, where his father was Notary of the Chatelet, and Treasurer of the Chamber of Accounts. He was intended for the law, but he took to literature, and on producing the tragedy of "Oedipus" his father allowed him to follow his own inclinations as to a profession. He was sent to the Bastille at the age of 22, on the ground that he was writing satires on the government, and it was while he was there that he completed the tragedy just referred to. The tragedy was represented in 1718 with distinguished success. Then followed two others that were not so successful. He was sent a second time to the Bastille, and on being released took up his residence in England where he was favorably received by many illustrious personages, and he obtained a large subscription for "The Henriade" which he had laid the plan of while in prison the first time. In 1728 he returned to France, and between that time and 1749 he produced the tragedies of "Zara," "Alzira," "Mahomet," "Merope," and many other works; was admitted into the French Academy, and was appointed gentleman of the King's chamber in ordinary, and historiographer of France. In 1750 he accepted the invitation of the King of Prussia to Berlin, but after a time their amicable relations came to an end, and in 1753 Voltaire went to Geneva, as Paris was uncomfortable on account of the intrigues of his enemies. At length he purchased an estate at Ferney, in the Pays de Gex, where he finally settled. There he was surrounded by his friends, and wrote incessantly. In April, 1778, he went once more to Paris, after an absence of nearly thirty years, and he was received with enthusiasm, his bust crowned on the stage, and placed by the Academicians next to that of Corneille. But he enjoyed his honors only a short time, dying May 30. His demise was hastened by an overdose of laudanum, which he took, several of his biographers state, to calm the pain occasioned by strangury, and to procure sleep, of which he had long been deprived. It is said that while he was in England his associates were leading deists, whose opinions he adopted. Another writer says he confessed before he died to a Romish priest, but this was merely an act of accommodation to the rules of society, that he might secure absolution and a decent burial. "We must howl with the wolves,"

he said; "if I were on the banks of the Ganges, I would die with a cow's tail in my hand."

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S "WINCHESTER" HORSE.

Is General Sheridan's famous Winchester steed still alive?

Answer.—The horse that brought General Sheridan to "win the day" died in this city some time ago.

THE WAR OF CHILI AND PERU.

Please state the cause of the war between Chili and Peru, and whether Bolivia is united with Peru or not.

DAVID CITY, NEB.

FRED ALLEN.

Answer.—For a number of years the nations of Peru and Chili have been rivals in commerce, and this spirit of competition was carried to such an extent that it gave rise to political intrigues ending in hostile demonstrations. There has been a sharp contest between the two countries, with their immense coast line, for the control of the trade. When the great nitrate fields were discovered, Peru and Chili endeavored to control the trade. Bolivia, with a small strip of coast line, generally went with Peru, having many geographical and political reasons for so doing. The nitrate fields developed railroad construction in Peru in a remarkable degree, the purpose being to open land communication with the mines and the nitrate lands. At that time Peru was out of sight in the lead of South American countries in railroads. She has now about 3,000 miles of railroad, to 600 which Chili possesses. All seemed in good shape for the projected enterprise, when Peru became involved with adjoining countries, and internal quarrels as to railroad improvement paralyzed her power and prospects. A treaty was effected between Bolivia and Chili in regard to the province of Atacama, which lies on the Pacific coast between Peru and Chili, and the Bolivian Government agreed to relinquish her claim to the southern part of the province and share with the Chileans the revenue from the nitrate and guano trade. This treaty was repudiated by the Bolivian Government, but subsequently reaffirmed. Then the joint ownership of the province was annulled, and the boundary line was established, giving Chili the southern half of Atacama; this was accompanied with the proviso that Chili should share equally with Bolivia the guano products of Mejillones, and that the export duties on mineral products collected from Chileans residing in the Bolivian part of the province should not be increased for twenty-five years. Chileans then removed to Atacama in large numbers, took possession of almost all the nitrate traffic, and constructed railroads, storehouses, etc. Complications followed, as Bolivia contended that Chili had not lived up to the agreement made by the two nations. That state of affairs resulted from the modified treaty of 1874. Then Peru, fearing encroachment on the part of Chili, made a defensive alliance with Bolivia; but the recurrence of that political mania—revolution—so common in Central and South American States, interfered, and the treaties existing were repudiated. In this sort of style matters con-

tinned to run along until 1879, when Chili occupied the coast town of Antofagasta, and the whole of the province of Atacama. Peru protested, but the Chilean authorities declared war April 6, of the same year. Again Peru formed an alliance with Bolivia, and the war begun. Both the last-named countries put armies into the field against Chili, but these were defeated by the forces of the latter State. These are some of the principal causes leading up to the unfortunate and disastrous war between what have been recognized as the two most enterprising republics of South America.

POPULAR NAMES OF STATES.

ARMINGTON, Tazewell Co., Ill.

Please give the nick-names of each of the States of the Union.

W. P. MASON.

Answer.—There are several of the States which are not distinguished by the popular names applied to the majority in the Union. The following list includes all those which are best known, and that are applied all over the Union to the several States:

Arkansas—Bear.
California—Golden.
Colorado—Centennial.
Connecticut—Nutmeg or Free Stone.
Delaware—Blue Hen or Diamond.
Florida—Peninsula.
Georgia—Empire of the South.
Illinois—Sucker or Prairie.
Indiana—Hoosier.
Iowa—Hawkeye.
Kansas—Jayhawker or Garden of the West.
Kentucky—Blue Grass or Dark and Bloody Ground.
Louisiana—Creole.
Maine—Lumber or Pine Tree.
Massachusetts—Bay.
Michigan—Wolverine.
Minnesota—Gopher or North Star.
Mississippi—Bavou.
New Hampshire—Granite.
New York—Empire or Excelsior.
North Carolina—Old North or Turpentine.
Ohio—Buckeye.
Pennsylvania—Keystone.
Rhode Island—Little Rhoda or Rhody.
South Carolina—Palmetto.
Tennessee—Big Bend.
Texas—Lone Star.
Vermont—Green Mountain.
Virginia—Old Virginia or Mother.
West Virginia—Pan-handle.
Wisconsin—Badger.

CAIUS MARIUS ON CARTHAGE'S RUINS.

McGREGOR, Iowa.

What is the meaning of "Caius Marius Viewing the Ruins"? Where did it originate and what is its application?

MRS. CHARLOTTE LUCE.

Answer.—Caius Marius was a Roman soldier who rose from obscurity to be a leader in the army and state. After having been signally successful in several wars against the enemies of Rome, and when he had been chosen Consul for the sixth time, his star began to wane and his opponents commenced plotting his complete overthrow. At last, driven from Rome, he sought refuge in a foreign land, whither his enemies pursued him, and a soldier was ordered

to dispatch him, but was so affected by the look and language of the old leader that he refused to kill him. Then Marius fled to Africa, and landed at Carthage, where a message was sent him by the Roman praetor, ordering him to leave the country. His answer was: "Tell the praetor that you have seen Caius Marius a fugitive, sitting on the ruins of Carthage."

STATE AND TERRITORIAL CAPITALS.

ELLINGTON, Iowa.

Please give a list of the States and Territories with the present capitals.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The following is a list of the State and Territories with the names of the capitals:

Alabama—Montgomery.
Arkansas—Little Rock.
California—Sacramento.
Colorado—Denver.
Connecticut—Hartford.
Delaware—Dover.
Florida—Tallahassee.
Georgia—Atlanta.
Illinois—Springfield.
Indiana—Indianapolis.
Iowa—Des Moines.
Kansas—Topeka.
Kentucky—Frankfort.
Louisiana—New Orleans.
Maine—Augusta.
Maryland—Annapolis.
Massachusetts—Boston.
Michigan—Lansing.
Minnesota—St. Paul.
Mississippi—Jackson.
Missouri—Jefferson City.
Nebraska—Lincoln.
Nevada—Carson City.
New Hampshire—Concord.
New Jersey—Trenton.
New York—Albany.
North Carolina—Raleigh.
Ohio—Columbus.
Oregon—Salem.
Pennsylvania—Harrisburg.
Rhode Island—Newport and Providence.
South Carolina—Columbia.
Tennessee—Nashville.
Texas—Austin.
Vermont—Montpelier.
Virginia—Richmond.
West Virginia—Wheeling.
Wisconsin—Madison.
Alaska—Sitka.
Arizona—Tucson.
Dakota—Yankton.
Idaho—Boise City.
Indian—Tahlaquah.
New Mexico—Santa Fe.
Utah—Salt Lake City.
Washington—Olympia.
Wyoming—Cheyenne.

GENERAL J. B. McPHERSON.

BOONEVILLE, Ind.

Where was General McPherson born, and where was he killed? Please give a short history of his military career.

J. W. PEARCE.

Answer.—General James B. McPherson was born at Clyde, Sandusky Co., O., Nov. 14, 1828, and was killed near Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864. He graduated from West Point in 1853, the first

his class, and entered the engineer corps; was assistant instructor at West Point in 1853-54, and from 1854 to '57 was engaged on the defenses of New York harbor, and in San Francisco Bay 1858-61. He was a captain when the slavery war broke out, and May 15, 1862, became Brigadier General of Volunteers, and Major General Oct. 8 the same year. On Aug. 1, 1863, he was made Brigadier General in the regular army for his services in the capture of Vicksburg. General McPherson was actively engaged at the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson, in the battle of Shiloh, the Operations around Corinth, the battle of Iuka, and the second battle of Corinth. In November and December, 1862, in the advance through Central Mississippi, he commanded one wing of the army (the Seventeenth Corps), with great ability. This corps made a brilliant record at the battle of Port Gibson, and was conspicuous at Champion Hills. General McPherson repulsed the rebels at Canton, Miss., and was second in command to General Sherman in the expedition to Meridian, in February, 1864, and in the Atlanta campaign he distinguished himself at Mesasa, Dallas, Allatoona, Kulp House, and Kenesaw. On March 4, 1864, he was appointed Commander of the Department and Army of the Tennessee. In the great fight before Atlanta he held the left of the line. While superintending an advance of the skirmish line, he was ambushed and shot.

YANKEE—NEWSPAPER HIEROGLYPHICS.

1. Can a person born in New York State be properly called a "Yankee," or any one born in any other State out of New England? 2. What do these figures and letters mean: "933. Wilson R. 9 Mch 1." ROBERT.

Answer.—1. "Yankee" is a popular term for a native or inhabitant of New England, although it is often indiscriminately applied to all inhabitants of the United States. 2. The address upon THE INTER OCEAN cover is like this:

993. Smith Jno. 10Apr1
New Chicago, Ill.

It means that John Smith is a subscriber who resides at New Chicago. The figures 993 are to facilitate the work of keeping the subscription books of the office. Thus: All subscriptions that were received April 10, 1880, are so numbered, and all books that the names received on that day are recorded in and numbered for that day "993," thereby connecting the work done for that day by the number "993." The words "10Apr1" mean that the subscription expires on April 10, 1881, the omission of the whole "1881" being made to save space only.

THE SHADOW OF CHARLES LAMB'S LIFE.

WAUCOMA, IOWA.
What great tragedy overshadowed the life of Charles Lamb? A. E. G.

Answer.—It is a sad story, that of the Lamb family. There was a tendency to insanity in the family, and the immortal "Elia" himself was, at the age of 20, confined in a mad-house for six weeks. The terrible attack left him and never returned, but the tendency was very marked in

the case of his sister, Mary Lamb. On Sept. 22, 1796, she killed her mother in a paroxysm of madness, and from that time she was subject to attacks of insanity. Mary Lamb always had premonitions of these attacks, and would indicate the time when Charles should take her to the asylum. He devoted himself to her, and never admitted any connection which could interfere with his single care to sustain and comfort her.

THE FRANKLIN FUND.

DELTA, Kan.
What has become of the Franklin Fund for the assistance of "such young married artificers under the age of 25 years, as had served an apprenticeship in the towns of Boston and Philadelphia?" READER.

Answer.—The Franklin Fund, to assist young married artificers under the age of 25 years, who have served apprenticeships, in setting up their business, is under the will of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, and is administered in Philadelphia by the Board of Public Trusts. The office is in Philadelphia, and the fund is lent out in certain sums upon security.

SUN-DOGS—VACCINATION.

JACKSONVILLE, Ill.
1. What is the philosophy of the appearance of sun-dogs, and why do they appear on a horizontal line with the sun? 2. How and by whom was the virtue of vaccination discovered? 3. When, and how, did the custom of coloring eggs for Easter originate?

ANNIE H. HURST.

Answer.—1. The word halo is a term commonly used in meteorology to include all those phenomena in which a luminous ring, either colored or uncolored, is seen around the disk of the sun or moon. There are two distinct classes of such phenomena, called coronae and halos. The attendants of halos are, circles having a double diameter, parhelia or mock suns, and various other circles. Coronae are distinguished from halos in this fundamental respect, that the former are due to particles or vesicles of water in mist or cloud, and the latter to minute crystals of ice. Parhelia are popularly known as sun-dogs or mock suns. In high northern latitudes, halos and parhelia are very frequent, but whether in higher or lower latitudes they are only seen when there intervene between the luminary and observer those highest thread-like forms of clouds, the cirrus or cirro-stratus. The inquirer is referred for a fuller explanation of these phenomena than we have the space to give to the subject of halos in any of the standard works. 2. Dr. Edward Jenner, an English physician, who was born at Berkley, Gloucestershire, May 17, 1749, first practiced it. While he was yet young, his attention was directed to the subject of a preventive of small-pox, by hearing a young country woman, who had come to the surgery of the gentleman to whom Jenner was apprenticed, say that she could not take the small-pox because she had already had the cow-pox. Upon inquiry he ascertained that in Gloucestershire persons engaged in milking cows frequently had the cow-pox, a mild disorder of the eruptive kind appearing on the udder of the animal, and communicated in a similar form to their hands; that it had never been known to prove fatal when thus communicated; and that the belief was common among the agricultural classes that

whoever had taken the disease was secure against the infection of small-pox. He at once began a serious examination, and was soon led to conjecture that cow-pox, as the milder disease, might advantageously supersede the inoculated small-pox, which had been introduced about fifty years before; and that as the latter is rendered less virulent by inoculation, so the former, introduced in the same way, might be milder and yet retain its protecting power. In 1770 he communicated this conjecture to the celebrated John Hunter, who made public mention of it in his lectures. On returning to Berkley, Jenner pursued the subject for many years, making a thorough study of varioloid symptoms. After frequent experiments, he ascertained that only one form of the eruption on the cow's udder had the property of protecting from the small-pox, and such was his faith in his discovery that several of these experiments were made upon his own son, a lad 6 years old. He labored against great opposition for many years, and finally saw his discovery meet the approval of a large number of medical gentlemen. In 1858 his statue was placed in Trafalgra Square in London.

CLEARING HOUSE—BOARD OF TRADE. MARTINSVILLE.

1. What is meant by the clearing-house receipts in New York? Is it run by the United States or the city? 2. What is meant by the Chamber of Commerce? 3. What is meant by the Board of Trade? H. P. LOWRY.

Answer.—1. The clearing house is an institution founded, not merely upon the idea of saving time and trouble in the use of the precious metals, but also of circulating notes. All the banks and bankers associated as members of a clearing house are for this purpose, as it were, but one individual. The Clearing House of London, which was the first of the kind, originated among the bankers of that city, whose transactions in the checks, bills, and drafts, drawn upon each other, became so large as to call for the daily, and even hourly, use of vast sums in bank notes by all of them. Appreciating how readily the debts and credits respectively due or held by them might be set off, the one against the other, they formed the Clearing House, where, up to 4 o'clock each day, all drafts, bills, etc., upon each individual member were taken. This system of the London Clearing House was, a few years ago, much extended and improved. Clearing houses exist in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, and other cities of the United States. The system in Philadelphia is very fine. The clearings are made each morning at 8:30, just before which hour a messenger and a clerk from each bank are at the Clearing House. The clerks take their seats inside of a series of desks arranged in the form of a half oval. The messenger brings with him from his bank a sealed package for each other bank, containing all the checks or drafts on such banks. The name of the bank sending and that of the bank to which it is sent are printed on each package, and the amount sent is written thereon. Messengers take their place near the desks of their respective banks, and they have with them tabular statements of the amount sent to

each bank and the aggregate. These are exhibited to the respective clerks and noted by them on the blank form. At 8:30 o'clock precisely, the manager calls to order and gives the word, when all the messengers move forward from left to right of the clerks, handing in to those clerks the packages addressed to the respective banks, and taking receipts for them on their statements. The several clerks then pass around a memorandum of the debts, credits, and balances, each of his respective bank. When these memoranda have made the circuit, each clerk has on his statement the debts, credits, and balances, whether debtor or creditor, of each bank. If these debts and credits, or debtor and creditor balances are found to balance, the clerks now leave the Clearing House. If not, they remain till the error or errors are discovered. The balances due by the several banks are paid into the Clearing House that day by 11:30 o'clock a. m., and are receivable by the creditor banks by 12:30 p. m. Each bank is obliged daily to furnish to the Clearing House a statement of its condition at the end of business on that day, and tables are daily furnished to the several banks of all the banks in the Clearing House. 2. As good a general definition as any is that given by Webster, namely: The Chamber of Commerce is a board to protect the interests of commerce, chosen among the merchants and traders of a city. 3. An explanation of the purpose of the Chicago Board of Trade, which answers this question, was given recently in these columns.

HUMBOLDT—PETER THE HERMIT.

WOLCOTTVILLE, La Grange Co., Ind.
1. Please give a sketch of Alexander Von Humboldt. 2. Also of Peter the Hermit.

EDWIN L. WRIGHT.

Answer.—1. Friederich Heinrich Alexander Von Humboldt, the great German naturalist, was born at Berlin, in the year 1769, and was educated for employment in the direction of the government mines. In the year 1792, he was appointed assessor to the mining board, subsequently exchanging the post for that of a director of the works at Bayreuth. These duties he abandoned in 1795 in order to devote himself to those pursuits in which he became so distinguished. At the age of 30, when he had acquired considerable acquaintance with the different countries of Europe, he sailed in company with Aime Bonpland, the French naturalist, for South America. From June, 1799, to July, 1804, he explored the northern part of South America, especially the countries drained by the Orinoco and the Rio Negro; ascended the Magdalena as far as possible by water, penetrating by land to Quito; in June, 1802, he and Bonpland ascended Chimborazo to a point 19,000 feet or more above the level of the sea, the highest point of the Andes ever reached by man; passed nearly a year in Mexico; and, after visiting the United States, returned to Europe with rich collections of plants, animals, and minerals. Humboldt spent about twenty years in Paris, digesting and publishing the results of his observations. His great work, and

that by which he is most widely known in the United States, is his "Cosmos," undertaken when he was 74 years of age. In 1810 he was chosen a member of the French Institute. In the year 1826 he removed to Berlin, and received the title of Councillor, and between 1830 and 1848 was sent to Paris on several political missions. In 1829, with Ehrenberg and Rose, he made a scientific exploration of Asiatic Russia. He was a member of all the principal learned bodies in the world. He died at Berlin May 6, 1859. 2. Peter the Hermit, the apostle of the first crusade, was born of good family in the diocese of Amlens, France, about the middle of the eleventh century, and died in a monastery near Huy in 1115. After engaging in several pursuits, he became a hermit, and in 1093 undertook a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where the oppressions he witnessed and experienced determined him to arouse the people of Christendom to undertake a war for the liberation of the holy sepulchre. The first host of crusaders were led by Peter in person, and was unsuccessful. His name was associated with the expedition under Godfrey of Bouillon. While the crusaders were besieged in Antioch, he deserted, but was captured and brought back. On the conquest of Jerusalem he preached a sermon to the crusaders on the Mount of Olives. After this he returned to Europe, and founded the Abbey of Neufmoutier, near Huy, where he passed the rest of his life.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOMESTEADS.

HART, Holt Co., Neb.
Please tell us what advantage a soldier has over a citizen in securing a homestead? Some authorities say he has a year to get on his claim?
H. N. GOULD.

Answer.—There are several inquiries at hand asking substantially the same question as this. We take the following, which will answer all these inquiries, from the Revised Statutes of the United States, granting homesteads to soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphan children:

"SEC. 2,304. Every private soldier and officer who has served in the army of the United States during the recent rebellion, for ninety days, and who was honorably discharged, and has remained loyal to the government, including the troops mustered in to the service of the United States by virtue of the third section of an act, approved Feb. 13, 1862; and every seaman, marine, and officer who has served in the navy of the United States, or in the Marine Corps, during the rebellion, for ninety days, and who was honorably discharged, and has remained loyal to the government, shall, in compliance with the provisions of this chapter, as hereinafter modified, be entitled to enter upon and receive patent for a quantity of public lands not exceeding 160 acres, or one quarter section, to be taken in compact form, according to legal subdivisions, including the alternate reserved sections of public land along the line of any railroad or other public work not otherwise reserved or appropriated, and other lands subject to entry under the homestead laws of the United States; but such homestead settler shall be allowed six months after locating his homestead, and filing his declaratory statement, within which to make

his entry and commence his settlement and improvement.

"SEC. 2,305. The time which the homestead settler has served in the army, navy, or marine corps, shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title; or if discharged on account of wounds received or disability incurred in the line of duty, then the term of enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title, without reference to the length of time he may have served; but no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year after he shall have commenced his improvements."

"SEC. 2,307. In case of the death of any person who would be entitled to a homestead under the provisions of section 2,304, his widow, if unmarried, or in case of her death or marriage, then his minor orphan children, by a guardian duly appointed and officially accredited at the Department of the Interior, shall be entitled to all the benefits enumerated in this chapter, subject to all the provisions as to settlement and improvement therein contained; but if such person died during his term of enlistment, the whole term of his enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect the title."

Copp's "American Settlers' Guide" adds: The advantages this law presents over the general homestead law are: 1. The privilege of filing a declaration with the Register and Receiver, which will hold a tract, selected in person or by an agent, for six months without entry, residence, or cultivation. 2. The right of making final proof before the end of the usual five years. Except where the claimant wishes to sell his land, the latter privilege is a disadvantage, because as soon as title passes from the United States to an individual, the real estate becomes subject to taxation. Soldiers and sailors will observe the important requirement of *at least one year's actual bona fide residence and cultivation* of the homestead, and not be deceived by parties who solicit the privilege of locating homesteads in their names at considerable expense when there is no prospect of settling on the land selected.

WHO FIRST DISCOVERED AMERICA.

STEWART, Wis.
Please state what grounds have the Norwegians or Scandinavians for claiming the discovery of America first.
JOHN W. GABRIEL.

Answer.—Some years ago an eminent antiquarian, Prof. Rafn, published a book showing that the Northmen, or Scandinavians, undoubtedly visited the shores of North America about the year 1000, and that they probably entered Naragansett Bay. This suggested to some American antiquarians that the old tower at Newport, R. I., might have been erected by those hardy adventurers. Considerable stress was laid upon this, coupled with the fact that about a thousand years ago these Northmen settled Iceland, and it is known that a colony was sent from there to Greenland, while a glance at the map will show

that the distance from there to the North American coast is not so great but it could have easily been reached by these early rovers. It is also recorded in the Norse traditions that the Northmen in sailing west actually arrived at some country beyond Green and. The Norse narratives describe a mild climate in the country they visited, and mention having found wild grapes, which is thought to refer to Rhode Island, where there are plenty of these grapes on the islands in the harbor, or to Nova Scotia, where the climate and fruits are similar to those further south. There have also been found an inscription on a rock, near Dighton, Mass., which it was once believed revealed some words in the Norse language; and the brass breast-plate, which was dug up at Fall River, Mass., and it was thought this might be the remains of a Norse Viking. Longfellow wrote his "Skeleton in Armor" about this relic. The name of Vinland, or Vineland, was given to the country visited. Nearly all the historians mention these earlier discoveries, and speak of the voyages of Eric to Greenland, and the traditions which remain of the first visits of these explorers to the new world.

PASSPORTS—JOHN G. WHITTIER.

CHICAGO.
1. Where does the poet John G. Whittier reside? 2. Would a passport be necessary to one traveling in Spain and Portugal? 3. What is the value of cents coined in 1858, and to whom must one apply to dispose of several? B.

Answer.—1. John G. Whittier lives at Danvers, Mass. 2. It is always best for Americans traveling on the continent of Europe to take passports with them. This is especially the case at the present time, when Europe is so disturbed with elements which, in one way and another, are opposing the governments of the nations in which they live, and where strangers are looked upon with suspicion. 3. It is an extremely difficult matter to state the value of any rare coin, especially when it has not been seen, and when there is no known demand for it. For the information of this inquirer, however, it may be stated that it is probable a United States cent of 1858, in fair condition, is worth about 25 cents. We know of no person who is purchasing rare coin. The price above given would probably be paid by some persons who were desirous of completing their cabinet collection.

AUTHOR OF "THE LIGHT OF ASIA."

LANCASTER, WIS.
Who and what is Edwin Arnold, the author of "The Light of Asia"? MRS. H.

Answer.—Edwin Arnold was born June 10, 1832, and was the second son of Robert Coles Arnold, a magistrate of Sussex, Eng. He was educated at Rochester and at King's College, London, and was elected to a scholarship at University College, Oxford. At the age of 20 he obtained the Newdegate prize for his English poem on "The Feast of Belshazzar," and was selected in 1853 to address the Earl of Derby on his installation as Chancellor of the university. The following year he was graduated with honors, and, upon quitting college, was elected second master in the English division of King Edward VI's school,

Birmingham, and was subsequently appointed principal at the Government College at Poona, in the Bombay Presidency, which position he held during the mutiny, and resigned in 1860. He has contributed largely to critical and literary journals, and is the author of a number of prose and political works, the best known of which is, perhaps, "The Light of Asia." He was for a number of years a leading writer in one of the chief daily journals of London, and not long since became the editor of a leading London newspaper.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

MONTGOMERY, ILL.
Please explain what is meant by the "Alabama Claims," and how they were settled. A. B. CONANT.

Answer.—The "Alabama Claims" were demands made upon Great Britain by the United States for damages caused by the destruction of American shipping, by the privateers in the rebel service, which were built, or armed and equipped in and sailed from British ports. The rebel vessel best (or worst) known in connection with the depredations to our shipping was the Alabama, which gave its name to the claims subsequently made by the United States. The other vessels were the Sumter, Nashville, Retribution, Tallahassee, and Chickamauga. The claims were settled by referring the whole matter to a tribunal of arbitration, to the finding of which Great Britain and the United States agreed to abide, and which awarded \$15,000,000 to the United States. This amount awarded was paid in the year 1874.

CHINESE IN AMERICA.

PLAINFIELD, ILL.
How many Chinese are there in this country, and what, generally, is their business? Please give what information you have on the subject. D.

Answer.—There are about 105,700 Chinese in the United States, according to the census returns which have just been issued by the Census Department. Of this number, California has 75,122; Nevada, 5,423; Oregon, 9,508; Idaho Territory, 3,378; Washington Territory, 3,227; Arizona, 1,632, and Montana, 1,737. They are chiefly employed as laundrymen, servants, etc.

BAYARD TAYLOR.

TROY GROVE, ILL.
Please give a short sketch of Bayard Taylor, the Pennsylvania author. W. E. BROWN.

Answer.—The popular journalist, author, lecturer, diplomat, and traveler, Bayard Taylor, was born Jan. 11, 1825, near Kennett Square, Chester County, Pa. At the age of 17 he became an apprentice in a printing office of Winchester, and employed his spare time in reading and study, and saving the money that took him to Europe in 1844-6. At that early period in his life he commenced courting the Muses, and before he started across the ocean he had written several poems for periodicals and magazines, which were gathered together in a little volume entitled "Ximena." He spent two years traveling in Europe, at a cost of only \$500, and upon his return to America published "Views Afoot," descriptive of his journeyings in the Old World, a book which was commended by some of the leading critics and writers of the time. His career as a journalist began properly with the

publication of a paper at Phoenixville, Pa, whose editor he remained for a year, and then he published another volume of "Rhymes of Travel, Ballads, and Other Poems" in 1848. From the year following to his death he became a leading figure in the world of journalism. In 1849 he became a member of the staff of the New York *Tribune*, and visited California, being a veritable "49-er," and his book, "Eldorado," published in 1850, met with extraordinary success, 10,000 copies being sold in America in twelve days, and in England 30,000 were sold in a short time. Mr. Taylor left Philadelphia, Aug. 28, 1851, and returned to New York, Dec. 20, 1853, after having traveled more than 50,000 miles in Africa, Asia, and Europe. His travels next led him to Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, as well as to Greece, Russia, and Crete, in 1856-58, and each trip found him coming back with rich stores of information, which his keen, enthusiastic, observing mind turned to the best account. In 1862 he became Secretary to the American Legation at the Court of St. Petersburg, and the year following he performed the duties of Charge d'Affaires. His unwearying pen delighted the public, on his return to his native land after these official services, and he occasionally entered the field of fiction, as his "Hannah Thurston," "John Godfrey's Fortunes," etc., will abundantly testify. Mr. Taylor's other literary works are numerous, and show a versatility that is remarkable. He was at the time of his death our Minister to Germany. He was a poet of no mean ability, a writer of wonderful spirit and sprightliness, vivacious, truthful, overflowing with mirth; a lecturer who everywhere met with a cordial welcome; a man who rose from the people, and who never forgot it; and one whose comparatively early death left a vacancy in the ranks of the world's journalism that may not be filled.

THE SOUTH SEA BUBBLE.

What was the "South Sea bubble?" Please give an account of it. DAVID CITY, Neb.
REMEID.
Answer.—The "South Sea bubble," as it is generally called, was a financial scheme which occupied the attention of prominent politicians, communities, and even nations in the early part of the eighteenth century. Briefly the facts are: In 1711, Robert Hartley, Earl of Oxford, then Lord Treasurer, proposed to fund a floating debt of about £10,000,000, sterling, the interest, about \$600,000, to be secured by rendering permanent the duties upon wines, tobacco, wrought silks, etc. Purchasers of this fund were to become also shareholders in the "South Sea Company," a corporation to have the monopoly of the trade with Spanish South America, a part of the capital stock of which was to be the new fund. But Spain, after the treaty of Utrecht, refused to open her commerce to England, and the privileges of the "South Sea Company" became worthless. There were many men of wealth who were stockholders and the company continued to flourish, while the ill success of its trading operations was concealed. Even the Spanish war of 1718 did not shake the popular confidence. Then in April, 1720, Par-

liament, by large majorities in both Houses, accepted the company's plan for paying the national debt, and after that a frenzy of speculation seized the nation, and the stock rose to £300 a share, and by August had reached £1,000 a share. Then Sir John Blunt, one of the leaders sold out, others followed, and the stock began to fall. By the close of September the company stopped payment and thousands were beggared. An investigation ordered by Parliament disclosed much fraud and corruption, and many prominent persons were implicated, some of the directors were imprisoned, and all of them were fined to an aggregate amount of £2,000,000 for the benefit of the stockholders. A great part of the valid assets was distributed among them, yielding a dividend of about 33 per cent.

GENERAL S. W. KEARNEY—JOHN BROWN.

LEDGEVILLE, Wis.
1. Please give a sketch of the life of Stephen W. Kearney, General in the United States army during the Mexican war? 2. Where was John Brown born, and where was he tried and by what court, and where executed? PETER MAYVILLE, JR.

Answer.—1. Stephen Watts Kearney was born at Neward, N. J., Aug. 30, 1794, and entered the army March 12, 1812, as a Lieutenant in the Thirteenth Infantry. He distinguished himself in the action at Queenstown Heights, Oct. 13, 1812, and the following year was made Captain. In May, 1829, he became Major of the Third Infantry, and in March, 1833, was Lieutenant Colonel of the First Dragoons, and Colonel in 1836, and ten years later became Brigadier General. In the Mexican war he commanded the Army of the West, which marched to California, conquering New Mexico on the way. After establishing a provisional government at Santa Fe he proceeded to California, where he fought, Dec. 6, the battle of San Pascual, where he was twice wounded. In subsequent battles—San Gabriel and the Plains of Mesa—he took a prominent part, and from March to June, 1847, was Governor of California, and afterward joined the army in Mexico, and was military and civil Governor of Vera Cruz in March, 1848, and of the City of Mexico in May the same year. He was breveted Major General for his services in New Mexico and California in August, 1848. General Kearney was the author of several works on military affairs, etc. He died Oct. 31, 1848, at St. Louis. 2. John Brown, the John the Baptist of negro emancipation, was born at Torrington, Conn. He was tried at Charlestown, Va., by the local court, and was executed at the above named place.

FALSE CHRISTS.

FREMONT, Neb.
READER.
Give an account of the false Christs that came before the time of the Messiah.

Answer.—The authorities, notably Dr. Schaff, in speaking on the subject, refer first to the passage in the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew, at the twenty-fourth verse, where the Master warned His disciples of false Christs who were to follow Him. Not less than twenty-four different persons have arisen, says the Biblical scholar just referred to, and the defense of their claims to the Messiahship has cost the Jews a great expense of life and treasure. One of them, Coziba, or Barchocheba, lived in the sec-

ond century, and put himself at the head of the Jewish nation as their Messiah, and they adhered to him. The Romans made war upon him, and the Jews themselves allow that, in their defense of this false Messiah, they lost between 500,000 and 600,000 souls. In the twelfth century not less than eight or ten impostors appeared under the same name, and were followed by great numbers of the Jews. Most of them were punished for their imposture with death, and usually involved a multitude of their deluded followers in persecution and death. The last that gained any considerable number of converts was Mordecai, a Jew, of Germany, who lived in 1682, and he fled for his life, and his end is not known.

JACK CADE.

Will THE INTER OCEAN give a biographical sketch of Jack Cade? RACINE, Wis.
A. O. R.

Answer.—John, better known as Jack, Cade, was born in Ireland, and died July 11, 1450. He assumed the name of Mortimer, pretending to be a cousin of the dispossessed heir to the throne, the Duke of York, and headed a body of insurgents that grew to the strength of 20,000. From Blackheath, near London, he addressed a document to Henry VI., setting forth the grievances for which his followers asked redress, and another demanding the banishing of certain persons. Cade retreated before an army which the King sent against him, and at Seven Oaks turned on the royal forces, completely routing them, June 17, 1450, and July 1 took possession of Southwark. Then several entries were made into London, and during one visit of the insurgents, July 4, they beheaded Lord Say, the Treasurer, and Cromer, his son-in-law, Sheriff of Kent. The insurgents committed some lawless acts, and the people of London turned on them, and shut the bridge against the rebels as they returned to re-enter the city. A truce was declared, and many of the insurgents accepted the pardons granted. Cade fled, but was overtaken in Sussex and killed.

ABOUT MINTS.

CHARLESTON, Arizona.
1. At what time did the mint at Philadelphia cease to be a branch mint and become the main mint? 2. Where was the main mint previous to its location at Philadelphia? 3. Is it the regulation that the initial letter of the place where a branch mint is located is stamped on all coin made there, while it is not stamped on coin at the principal or main mint?

CHAS. D. HANDY.

Answer.—1. The mint at Philadelphia was established by act of Congress, April 2, 1792, and the first building erected in any part of the United States under the authority of the Federal Government was the United States mint, a plain brick building in Philadelphia, on the east side of Seventh street, above what is now called Filbert street, the corner-stone of which was laid by David Rittenhouse, the director of the mint, July 31, 1792. This building was abandoned when the mint at Juniper and Chestnut streets was occupied, about the year 1831-2. Branch mints were established in 1835 at New Orleans, La., Charlotte, N. C., and Dahlonega, Ga.; in 1854 at San Francisco, Cal., and in 1870 at Carson City, Nev., and later at other points. 2. This question is answered by the preceding

reply. 3. That is the rule. The coins having no letters are coined at Philadelphia.

REVENUE FROM INDIA AND ILLINOIS.

LA PRAIRIE, Marshall County, Ill.
1. Does the English Government derive any revenue from India, and if so, how much annually? 2. How much revenue does Illinois pay to our General Government, and what are the amounts paid from the various sources? CALVIN STOWELL.

Answer.—1. Taking the ten years from 1868 to 1878 as an average period, we find that the revenue has, six years out of the ten, been in excess of the expenditures. When the revenue has changed, it has rarely gone beyond £2,000,000, or \$10,000,000. 2. Probably what this correspondent means is the statement of receipts from the several sources of internal revenue. To give this reader some idea of what Illinois contributes in this respect, we give the receipts for the year 1879-80. These are official figures: Distilled spirits.....\$19,589,253.97 Tobacco.....2,493,226.67 Fermented liquors.....767,013.67 Banks and bankers.....165,078.64 Back taxes under repealed laws..527.38 Penalties.....20,514.16 Aggregate receipts.....23,035,614.49

NATIONAL NOMINATING CONVENTIONS.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.
Would you please inform me where the different candidates for President were nominated, commencing with the nominations of 1800? A. W. McFARLAND.

Answer.—The following is a list of the places where the several Presidential candidates since 1860 were nominated:

Year.	Name.	Place.
1860—	Abraham Lincoln.....	Chicago.
	John Bell.....	Baltimore.
	Stephen A. Douglas.....	Baltimore.
	J. C. Breckinridge.....	Baltimore.
1864—	Abraham Lincoln.....	Baltimore.
	George B. McClellan.....	Chicago.
1868—	U. S. Grant.....	Chicago.
	Horatio Seymour.....	New York.
1872—	U. S. Grant.....	Philadelphia.
	Horace Greeley.....	Cincinnati and Baltimore.
1876—	R. B. Hayes.....	Cincinnati.
	S. J. Tilden.....	St. Louis.
	Peter Cooper.....	Indianapolis.
1880—	James A. Garfield.....	Chicago.
	W. S. Hancock.....	Cincinnati.
	J. B. Weaver.....	Chicago.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

JUNIATA, Neb.
To settle a little dispute, please state whether Vancouver Island belongs to England or the United States. Should like to have a little account of the settlement of the island. READER.

Answer.—Vancouver Island forms a part of British Columbia. The island is 275 miles long and its greatest breadth is about 85 miles. The city of Victoria is the chief place and is the capital of British Columbia. In 1792 the navigator, George Vancouver, took possession of the island in behalf of Great Britain, and it was surrendered by the Spanish commander Oudara. In 1843 the Hudson Bay Company established a trading post at Victoria, and the island was long claimed by the United States, but Great Britain was confirmed in her possession by the treaty of 1846. It was granted to the Hudson Bay Company in 1849 for ten years, and in 1859 it was erected into a colony, and in 1866 was consolidated with British Columbia.

OHIO LEGISLATIVE ELECTION.

OREGON, Wis.
1. Please state whether the State of Ohio holds blen-

mal sessions of the Legislature or not. 2. Why was General Garfield elected United States Senator from Ohio in 1880, to take his seat March 4, 1881? Why not have waited till this winter to have elected a Senator?

M. A. K.

Answer.—1 and 2. Simply because the Legislature of the State of Ohio holds biennial sessions, and met a year ago. However, in Ohio, and a few other States, where the legislative sessions are biennial, the Legislature holds "adjourned sessions," practically amounting to annual meetings. But the Senators are voted for at the regular biennial session.

SALARIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

HANCOCK, Mich.
Will you please publish the salaries of the Vice President, Cabinet officers, and Senators and Representatives to Congress, including the Speaker of the House? There is a difference of opinion here as to the amount received.

INQUIRER.

Answer.—Following will be found the list of the salaries of the officials asked for:

President	\$50,000
Vice President.....	8,000
Cabinet officers.....	8,000
Senators.....	5,000
Representatives and Delegates.....	5,000
Speaker of the House.....	8,000

POPULAR VOTE IN 1880.

LOUISVILLE, Ill.
What was the popular vote of Hancock, Garfield, and Weaver, in the last Presidential campaign.

A. WHEELER.

Answer.—We give the latest revised and corrected returns which are as taken from figures compiled by the Librarian of Congress:

Garfield.....	4,442,950
Hancock.....	4,442,035
Weaver.....	305,867
Scattering.....	12,576

A list of the returns from the several Secretaries of the various States, just published, shows the figures to be as follows:

Garfield.....	4,446,758
Hancock.....	4,443,106

THE SPANISH MAIN.

SCANDIA, Kan.
Please tell why the northern coast of South America is called "the coast of the Spanish main." B. S.

Answer.—"The Spanish main" was a name formerly given to the southern portion of the Caribbean Sea, together with the contiguous coast, as it embraced the route traversed by the Spanish treasure-ships from Mexico, Central America, and the northern shores of South America.

LIVES LOST IN THE CRUSADES.

DIXON, Ill.
How many people probably perished in the crusades against Jerusalem? A. E. S.

Answer.—It is difficult to give more than approximate figures, but historians estimate that the wars begun to recover the Holy Land cost the lives of 2,000,000 of men.

THE YOUNGEST PRESIDENT.

CABERY, Ill.
Please state who was the youngest man elected President of the United States? H.

Answer.—General U. S. Grant was the youngest man elected President, and General William Henry Harrison was the oldest.

CHICAGO'S FIRST MAYOR.

CHICAGO.
How was Chicago governed before it had a Mayor, and who was the first Mayor elected? LOU ST. CLAIR.

Answer.—In the year 1831 the county of Cook

had been organized, including within its area the present counties of Du Page, Lake, McHenry, Will, and Iroquois. It received its name from David P. Cook, a member of Congress from Southern Illinois. March 8 the County Commissioners, Samuel Miller, Gholson Kercheval, and James Walker were sworn in, and the three election districts organized were: One at Chicago, one on the DuPage River, and one, the Southern Precinct, on Hickory Creek, a branch of the Desplaines, in what is now Will County. In 1833 the town was organized, and Aug. 10, at an election held, there were twenty-eight votes cast. Two of the most important events of that year were the building of a log jail on the public square where the Court House now stands, and the construction of an estray pen at an expense of \$12. The Legislature passed the bill March 4, 1837, approving the charter, and "Chicago took upon herself the forms of a city." There were two parties, the Whig and the Democratic. John H. Kinzie was the Whig candidate, and William B. Ogden the Democratic choice. Both were members of the old St. James Episcopal Church, and both men of wealth for that time. "Long John" Wentworth, then a young man, went to the polls to vote, was challenged on the ground of his youth, and had to be sworn in. The vote was as follows:

South Division.....	408
North Division.....	204
West Division.....	97
Total.....	709
Ogden received.....	469
Kinzie.....	237

THE STORY OF EVANGELINE.

ROCK ISLAND, Ill.
Will you please tell us the story of "Evangeline?" IRVING A. SEARLES.

Answer.—The inquirer should read the story as it comes fresh from the pen of Longfellow. It is founded upon the circumstance of the French dwellers in Acadie, now known as Nova Scotia, having been compelled by the British to give up their property and their homes and disperse among the British provinces of North America, from there to "the Eden of Louisiana." Their houses and crops were burned in their sight, and they and their families shipped on board of vessels which bore them away, so that husbands and wives, parents and children, lovers and friends were separated, and some of them never met again in this life. The poet has taken this, and thus is the beautifully sad poem of "Evangeline" sung. Evangeline is the daughter of the wealthiest farmer of Grand Pre, and her lover is Gabriel, the son of Basil, the sturdy blacksmith of the peaceful village. When the villagers and their friends are celebrating the betrothal of Evangeline and Gabriel, they are summoned to the church to hear the message which the British ships, that have appeared in the harbor, have to deliver. Then the terrible order is given, and the people see their houses destroyed, and they are taken to the shore. While Evangeline and her father, Benedict Bellefontaine, are waiting on the beach to embark, her only surviving parent expires. Then they

bury him "without bell or book," and in the noise and hurry and confusion, Gabriel sails in one ship and Evangeline in another. The search of the lovers for each other begins. Evangeline hears of a settlement in Louisiana of the exiles, and, with Father Felician, the priest of Grand Pre, she goes to find Gabriel. They sail "past the Ohio shore and past the mouth of the Wabash," in to the Father of Waters, and down its broad stream to the land of peace and happiness. While they rest from their labors on an island, Gabriel passes them, but on the other side, bound for the hunting grounds of the North and the West, but they are not aware of it until they reach his home and Basil tells them his son could no longer endure the waiting and had gone, but would return. Evangeline and Basil follow the fugitive and travel over weary ways only to find Gabriel and his companions are still far in advance. They reach a mission among the Indians, where Gabriel had been only six days before. He is to return to the mission in the autumn, and Evangeline says she will stay there. But he never comes. She hears faintly a rumor that her lover has a lodge on the banks of the Saginaw, and thither she goes only to discover the lodge deserted and fallen to ruin. So the years pass, and with hope extinguished she becomes a Sister of Mercy in the City of Brotherly Love. While she visits the almshouse one Sabbath morning, she finds a stranger there, and in him she recognizes her loved Gabriel. He is dying, but just as she whispers his name, his passing spirit stays a moment, and the faithful ones are united, and then the light of his eyes sinks into darkness. The lovers are buried in the little Catholic churchyard, and side by side in their nameless graves they sleep.

COURT OF FINAL APPEALS.

DONOVAN, III.

Is there a court in the United States, higher than the Supreme Court, called the Court of Final Appeals, and, if so, who are the judges? V.

Answer.—There is no court of final appeal in the United States other than the Supreme Court.

UNITED STATES ARSENALS.

TONICA, III.

How many arsenals are there in the United States, and where are they? J. M. B.

Answer.—They are located at the following named places:

Springfield, Mass.	Fort Monroe, Va.
Pittsburg, Pa.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Augusta, Me.	Indianapolis, Ind.
Benicia Cal.	Kennebec, Me.
New York City.	St. Louis, Mo.
Pikesville, Md.	San Antonio, Texas.
Rock Island, Ill.	Watertown, Mass.
West Troy, N. Y.	

The most of these are merely small depots, and there are actually not more than three large arsenals in the United States, namely, Springfield, where is the great armory, at Rock Island, the new armory and arsenal, and at Watertown.

EUROPE'S RULERS.

MATTOON, III.

1. Who is the chief executive officer of each nation of Europe? 2. To what house does each belong? 3. What relationship, if any, exists between the houses? J. T. H.

Answer.—1. From the queries which follow

this, it is inferred the inquirer desires the names of the sovereigns. The following are the governments and the names of the rulers:

Austria-Hungary—Emperor Franz Joseph I.
Belgium—King Leopold II.
Denmark—King Christian IX.
France—President Francis P. J. Grevy.
Great Britain and Ireland—Queen Victoria.
Greece—King Georgios I.
Germany—Emperor Wilhelm.
Italy—King Humbert I.
Netherlands—King William III.
Portugal—King Luis I.
Roumania—Prince Karl I.
Russia—Emperor Alexander III.
Servia—Prince Milan IV.
Spain—King Alfonso XII.
Sweden and Norway—King Oscar II.
Switzerland—President Numa Droz.
Turkey—Sultan Abdul-Hamid-Khan.

2. Following are the houses of the first rank, only the names of the nations and the houses being given:

Austria-Hungary—Habsburg-Lorraine.
Germany—Hohenzollern.
Great Britain—Hanover.
Italy—Savoy-Carignano.
Russia—Romanof-Holstein.

3. It would be as difficult to trace the relationship between the reigning houses of Europe as to escape without the aid of Jove from the labyrinth of Minos.

TERRITORIAL POPULATION AND POLITICS.

WANO, Kan.

Please give the population and political complexion of the several Territories, and which ones have taken steps for admission. A. M. B.

Answer.—The figures given are from the official census of the United States for 1880:

Arizona.....	40,441	Utah.....	143,906
Dakota.....	135,180	Washington....	75,120
Dis. Columbia..	177,638	Wyoming.....	20,788
Idaho.....	32,611		
Montana.....	39,157	Total.....	783,271
New Mexico....	118,430		

The vote of these Territories for Delegates in Congress in 1880 is as follows.

Territories.	Repub'n.	Dem't.
Arizona.....	3,606	4,095
Dakota.....	18,796	9,340
Idaho.....	2,090	3,604
Montana.....	6,371	7,799
New Mexico.....	10,835	9,562
Utah.....	1,357	18,568
Washington.....	8,810	7,013
Wyoming.....	3,760	3,907

We have credited, in Montana, a Democrat with having defeated a Republican; the unsuccessful candidate ran as an independent. In Utah the Mormon Cannon is not only a polygamist but also a Democrat, while his opponent, Mr. Campbell, is a Republican, and, of course, a Gentile. There have been movements made in Dakota, New Mexico, and Utah for their admission as States, but no final action has yet been taken in any of the cases.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S IMPEACHMENT.

WIOTA, Iowa.

1. Please give the names of the Senators who voted against the impeachment of President Johnson. 2. By whom are United States Senators sworn in? R. J. Mo.

Answer.—1. The following is a list of those

who voted for and against the impeachment of Andrew Johnson in the United States Senate:

Guilty—Messrs. Anthony, Cameron, Cattell, Chandler, Cole, Conkling, Conness, Corbett, Cragin, Drake, Edmunds, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Harlan, Howard, Howe, Morgan, Morrill of Maine, Morrill of Vermont, Morton, Nye, Patterson of New Hampshire, Pomeroy, Ramsey, Sherman, Sprague, Stewart, Sumner, Thayer, Tipton, Wade, Willey, Williams, Wilson, Yates—35.

Not Guilty—Messrs. Bayard, Buckalew, Davis, Dixon, Doolittle, Fessenden, Fowler, Grimes, Henderson, Hendricks, Johnson, McCreery, Norton, Patterson of Tennessee, Ross, Saulsbury, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Vickers—19.

2. By the Vice President, or, in his absence, or by reason of his decease or retirement, by the President of the Senate. Senators are sworn in.

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK.

ELDORA, Iowa.
In the account of the inaugural proceedings it was stated that when it was exactly 12 o'clock, as marked by the clock in the Senate Chamber, the old janitor, "as he was instructed to do," turned the clock back ten minutes. Behind enough to explain if this is a uniform custom, and if so, its origin.

J. W. STEPHENS.

Answer.—The session of the Senate for any specified Congress ends at 12 o'clock on March 4. When 12 o'clock comes the Vice President announces that the Forty-fifth or Forty-sixth Congress, as the case may be, stands adjourned sine die. If the President-elect on inauguration day is late, or if important business presses, it has been the custom for some one to slyly put back the Senate clock, so that the nominally official time should not indicate 12 o'clock before the Senate was ready to adjourn. For many years Assistant Doorkeeper Bassett, who has been an employee of the Senate since the time of Daniel Webster, has made it a special duty to turn the clock back. He looks upon this as a matter of high privilege, and has been allowed to do it openly. Further than this the custom is not a regular one.

GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN.

DIXON, Lee Co., Ill.
Please give a brief biography of John A. Logan, his antecedents, etc.

GEORGE C. MARTIN.

Answer.—General John A. Logan was born in Jackson County, Ill., where he received a common school education, and subsequently graduated at the Louisville University. He enlisted as a private in the Illinois Volunteers, and became Quartermaster in the war with Mexico. In the year 1849 he was elected clerk of his native county, and then studied and practiced law. General Logan was elected to the Illinois Legislature in 1852, 1853, 1856, and 1857, and was Prosecuting Attorney from 1853 to 1857. In the year 1856 he was a Presidential elector, and then his Congressional career began. He was chosen to the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Congresses, and resigned and entered the Union army as Colonel, and rose to the rank of Major General. He was appointed, in 1865, Minister to Mexico, but declined, and was elected to the Fortieth and Forty-first Congresses, and was elected to the United States Senate to succeed Senator Yates.

serving from March 4, 1871, to March 3, 1877, and then resumed the practice of law at Chicago. On March 18, 1879, he was again elected to the United States Senate to succeed Senator Oglesby. His term expires March 3, 1885.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

FORT EDWARDS, Neb.
After the rebellion broke out in South Carolina, and before the remaining slave States seceded, did President Lincoln address them to the effect that he intended to emancipate their slaves? If not, did he ever address them to that effect?
G. A. DOLE.

Answer.—The Legislature of South Carolina passed unanimously the ordinance of secession Nov. 17, 1860 (McPherson's "History of the Rebellion"). On Dec. 20 the ordinance of secession was adopted without dissent by the convention that met at Charleston. Any one who will carefully read Vice President Wilson's "Rise and Fall of the Slave Power," and then turn to John C. Fremont's memorable order in Missouri, will see at once where President Lincoln stood at that time. When South Carolina seceded, Abraham Lincoln was not the President of the United States, and did not become President until after the rebels had carried the Southern States, by hook or crook, over to the secession cause. We are not aware that he ever addressed South Carolina, even though that State was the first to attempt to disrupt the Union, to the effect that he intended to free their slaves, until the great Emancipation Proclamation was issued.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.

KING SCHOOL, Chicago.
Will you please inform me how many weekly newspapers are published in the United States for circulation at this time?
NELLE F. SARGENT.

Answer.—The subjoined table will show the number of weekly newspapers published in the United States, according to the most recent and reliable returns:

New England States.....	587
New York State.....	802
Middle States.....	924
Southern States.....	1,414
Western States.....	3,940
Territories.....	144

Total.....7,811
Illinois alone publishes 653 weeklies, or 243 more than all the provinces of Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territory combined.

BELLE ISLE PRISON.

GALESBURG, Ill.
Where is or was the celebrated Confederate prison Belle Isle situated?
W. B. H.

Answer.—Belle Island, in Virginia, is a small island of a few acres in the James River, in front of Richmond. It was a barren spot, and there, with little or no shelter against the frost, there were at one time no fewer than 11,000 prisoners.

LOSSES BY WAR—POPULATION.

DENVER, Iowa.
1. What was the cost in men and money to both nations of the Revolutionary war? 2. What is the population of the world, United States, and Iowa?

A READER.

Answer.—1. The Revolutionary war cost the United States \$135,193,703. Great Britain lost 50,000 men and incurred a debt of £100,000,000 or \$500,000,000, and lost her American

colonies. The figures as to the losses in men to the "Old Thirteen" are largely estimates. 2. It is estimated that the population of the world is eleven hundred millions. The population of the United States, according to the last census, is 50,152,866, and of Iowa, 1,624,463.

UNITED STATES TREASURER.

MARION, Iowa.
Does the Treasurer of the United States have to give bonds? If so, please state the amount of the bonds, and who are his bondsmen. WILLIE HOAGLAND.

Answer.—The United States Statutes read as follows: "The Treasurer shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, give bond, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury and by the First Comptroller, in the sum of \$150,000, payable to the United States, with the condition for the faithful performance of the duties of his office and the fidelity of the persons to be by him employed, which bond shall be lodged in the office of the First Comptroller."

AREA OF NORTH AMERICA.

MENOMINEE, Mich.
Which contains the most number of acres, the United States or British Columbia—Canada and all—in fact, all of England's possessions on the north of the United States? R. U.

Answer.—The following figures will show the extent of the United States as compared with the British possessions in North America:

Country.	Square miles.
United States.....	3,602,884
British Possessions—	
Ontario.....	121,260
Quebec.....	210,020
Nova Scotia.....	18,670
New Brunswick.....	27,037
British Columbia.....	233,000
Manitoba.....	16,000
N. W. and Hudson Bay Territories.....	2,206,725
Labrador and Arctic Ocean Island	
make a total of.....	3,500,000

EUROPEAN STATISTICS.

VIROQUA, Wis.
Please state the population of all the countries of Europe for 1880, and education and religion.

B. M. NILES.

Answer.—The following table gives the population of the nations of Europe, according to the latest compilations:

Austria-Hungary.....	37,129,961	Portugal.....	4,441,037
Belgium.....	5,336,185	Roumania.....	5,376,000
Denmark.....	1,980,675	Russia.....	78,472,347
France.....	37,405,793	Servia.....	1,720,270
Germany.....	42,727,360	Spain.....	16,925,860
Great Britain.....	31,628,338	Sweden and Nor-	
Greece.....	1,457,894	way.....	6,270,266
Italy.....	26,792,354	Switzerland.....	2,759,854
Montenegro.....	250,000	Turkey.....	4,275,000
Netherlands.....	3,579,529		

The state religion in Austria is Roman Catholic, about 66 per cent of the inhabitants of the empire being Roman Catholics, and the remainder Greek Catholics, Evangelical Protestants, and Byzantine Greeks, and a few Jews. In Belgium the Roman Catholic faith is professed by all but a small fraction of the population. Full liberty is granted by the constitution, and part of the income of ministers of all denominations is paid from the national treasury to Catholics, Protestants, and Jews. The established religion in Denmark is the Lutheran, which was introduced in 1536, and complete religious toleration is extended to every sect. Less than 1 per cent of the population are non-members of the Lutheran Church. In France all religions are equal by law, but only the Roman Catholics, Protestants,

and Jews have state allowances. In Prussia absolute religious liberty is guaranteed by the constitution, and nearly two-thirds of the population are Protestants, and one-third are Roman Catholics. In Great Britain the Established Church of England is Protestant Episcopal, and in Scotland the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian); in Ireland about four-fifths of the population are Roman Catholic. The majority of the inhabitants of Greece are adherents of the Greek Orthodox Church, which is the declared religion of the state, but complete toleration and liberty of worship are granted to all other sects, of whatever form of belief. The Roman Catholic Church is, nominally, the ruling state religion of Italy, but recent acts of the legislature have subordinated the power of that church and its clergy entirely to the authority of the civil government, and secured perfect religious freedom to the adherents of all creeds without exception; the Catholics are largely in the majority. Montenegro adheres to the Greek Church. The constitution of the Netherlands gives entire liberty of conscience to members of all religious confessions; the royal family and a majority of the population belong to the Reformed Church; the salaries of several British Presbyterian ministers settled in the Netherlands, and whose churches are incorporated with the Dutch Reformed Church, are paid out of the public funds. In Portugal the Roman Catholic faith is the state religion, but all other forms of worship are tolerated. The number of Protestants is very small. Nearly the whole population of Roumania belong to the Greek Church, while in Russia the established religion of the empire is the Greco-Russian, officially called the Orthodox-Catholic Faith, and Servia resembles Roumania. The national church of Spain is the Roman Catholic, and all but about 60,000 of the people belong to that church; only a restricted liberty of worship is allowed Protestants. The mass of the population of Sweden and Norway adhere to the Lutheran Protestant Church, recognized as the state religion. In Switzerland about 59 per cent of the population are Protestants and 41 Roman Catholics; the constitution grants "complete and absolute liberty of conscience and creed," and "no one can incur any penalties whatsoever on account of his religious opinions." Turkey has what is termed a Mahometan and Christian population.

THE WANDERINGS OF ULYSSES.

COLOMA, Mich.
Please give a history of Ulysses, the wanderer.

R. B. GREGG.

Answer.—The wise and brave Ulysses was ruler of Ithaca, and the husband of Penelope, and their son was Telemachus. He reluctantly joined the Grecian expedition against Troy for the recovery of the beautiful but faithless wife of Menelaus. The great Ithacan distinguished himself in the ten years' war against the Trojans, as well by his prowess as a warrior as by his wisdom and his inexhaustible resources under difficulties. The armor of Achilles, after the death of that leader, was offered as a prize to the greatest warrior of the Greeks, and Ulysses and

Ajax became rivals for the honor, the former being successful. He was one of those adventurous spirits who were concealed in the wooden horse that was introduced into Troy. The *Odyssey* is devoted to a recital of the ten years' wanderings of Ulysses after the Trojan war. When he and his followers had had various adventures, he was thrown upon the coast of Lotophagi, where his companions, having eaten of the lotus, wished to remain, but he induced them to depart, and they sailed to the island of the Cyclops. With twelve of his followers he entered the cave of one-eyed Polyphemus, who devoured six of his companions. Ulysses made the giant drunk with wine, put out his eye with a burning pole, and tying himself and his companions under the bodies of the sheep, escaped when these were let out of the cave. They reached the island of *Æolus*, where Ulysses was presented by that god with a bag containing the winds which were to bring him home, but his followers opened the bag without his knowledge, the winds escaped, and they were driven back to the island. They sailed to *Ææa*, inhabited by the sorceress *Circe*, who changed part of his followers into swine, but through the aid of a god he overcame her spells, and his companions resumed their human shape. By *Circe's* advice, Ulysses descended into *Hades* to consult the seer *Tiresias*, who assured him that everything would turn out right if the herds of *Helios* in *Trinacria* were left unharmed. From the home of *Circe* he was carried to the island of the *Sirens*, but by filling the ears of his companions with wax, and tying himself to the mast, he passed them in safety. In sailing between *Scylla* and *Charybdis*, the monster first named carried off and devoured six of his companions. When they came to *Trinacria*, Ulysses was compelled by his band to land, and there, while he was sleeping, some of the finest cattle of *Helios*, which they had sworn not to touch, were killed and eaten. As soon as they were on the open sea another storm arose, and all on board were drowned except Ulysses, who was carried to the island of *Oxygia*, inhabited by the nymph *Calypso*, who promised him immortality and eternal youth if he would wed and remain with her, but, after being detained there seven years, he embarked on a raft and reached *Scheria*, whence he was sent to *Ithaca* in a ship after having been absent twenty years. He found his wife *Penelope* beset with suitors, whom he slew, with the aid of *Minerva* and his son *Telemachus*, now a young man. While Ulysses was absent *Penelope* was surrounded by princes eager for her hand. These she deceived by declaring that she must finish a shroud which she was weaving for her aged father-in-law, *Laertes*, before she could make up her mind; but she unraveled each night all that she had done during the day, and when at last the suitors discovered her deception, Ulysses appeared.

CAPTAIN JOHN ERICSSON.

JAMES CROSSING, Kan.
Please give a brief sketch of Captain John Ericsson, the Swedish engineer?
E. E. E.

Answer.—John Ericsson was born in the year

1803 in the province of *Wermeland*; at the age of 11 was appointed a cadet in the Engineers, in 1816 was employed as a leveler on the grand ship canal between the *Baltic* and *North Sea*, and entered the *Swedish* army in 1820 as an ensign. He was soon promoted to a *lieutenancy*, and was employed in surveys in *Northern Sweden*, attaining the rank of *Captain*. In 1826 he visited *England*, with a view of introducing his invention of a flame engine, but with mineral fuel it proved unsuccessful. Not long afterward he resigned his commission, and devoted his time and attention to mechanical pursuits. Numerous inventions followed, among others the steam boiler on the principle of artificial draft, which was extensively adopted. In 1836 he successfully applied the propeller to purposes of navigation, and in 1839 came to *New York*, and in 1841 was employed in the construction of the ship-of-war *Princeton*, which was the first steamship ever built with the propelling machinery under the water-line, and out of reach of shot. In 1851 he exhibited in the *United States* division of the *London Industrial Exhibition* a number of inventions, and received the prize medal of the exhibition. *Ericsson* gave considerable attention to *caloric engines*, and their improvement and perfection. At the beginning of the *slavery* war he entered into a contract with the government for the construction of iron war vessels with revolving turrets for the guns, the first practical application of the principle. The first one, the famous little *Monitor*, was completed in 100 days, reached *Hampton Roads* on the evening of *March 8, 1862*, and on the following day defeated and blockaded the rebel iron-clad *Merrimack*. Many improvements were made by him in these vessels, and they played an important part in the great *slavery* strife. *Captain Ericsson* gave much attention after the war to the construction of solar engines.

BORNEO AND MADAGASCAR.

VIENNA ROADS, Ohio.
Please give a description of the inhabitants of the islands of *Borneo* and *Madagascar*, their modes of living, etc. I have read of the wild men of *Borneo* being only three or four feet in height; is this true?

HARRY E. RICE.

Answer.—The island of *Borneo* is inhabited by a considerable variety of races, of very different origin and different degrees of civilization. The most important numerically are the *Dyaks*, the *Malays*, the *Chinese*, and the *Buginese*. The *Dyaks* are generally regarded as the most aboriginal, and are broken into numerous tribes. The *Malays* are a people of low stature, being, as travelers tell us, from four and a half to five feet in height, while the *Dyaks* are taller, but still considerably shorter than the average European. In general among the *Dyaks* neither beard nor whiskers are present, but this does not hold of all the tribes. Tattooing is commonly practiced by most of the tribes. The men generally go bare-headed or wear a bright-colored kerchief. It has been the custom with many tribes to preserve the skulls of their slaughtered enemies as trophies of their success in war; as the possession of a certain number of human heads is necessary before a

man can be admitted to some of the most important of the social privileges. The Dyak is intelligent, and in moral character is far superior to the civilized Malay, being unsuspicious and hospitable, and honest and truthful in a striking degree. The greater portion of this race have substantial dwellings, and cultivate rice, the banana, sugar-cane, and some cotton and tobacco for their own consumption. The distinction between Land Dyaks and Sea Dyaks is founded not upon the localities they inhabit, but upon the favorite pursuits of the respective tribes, which lead some to cultivate the soil and others to a life on the waters. The inhabitants of Madagascar number about 5,000,000, and are divided into two groups, the black of the Western slope, and the olive of the Eastern. The political divisions are four in number. The Hovas are the ruling tribe, a race of middle height, well proportioned, with straight or curled hair, and hazel eye. The government is a military despotism, and, although Christianity has been adopted, still many yet practice the heathen customs, such as infanticide and polygamy. The Madagascans are much addicted to divination, which they practice, according to certain definite rules, with the help of beans, rice, straw, sand, or any other article that can be easily counted or divided. Trials by ordeal until within a few years prevailed.

THE POET-LAUREATE.

How does the Poet-laureate of England receive his appointment, what are his duties, and what is his compensation?

AURORA, Ill.

JOHN SMITH.

Answer.—The custom of crowning a poet with laurel originated among the Greeks, and was adopted by the Romans, who borrowed this, as many other things, from their more cultured neighbors of the East. The poets who received the crown were the ones who succeeded in the contests. In the twelfth century the custom was revived in Germany by the Emperor, who invented the title of poet-laureate. Petrarch was crowned in 1341 at the Roman capital, which event attached new interest to the title. The early history of the laureateship in England is traditional. The story runs that Edward III., in 1367, emulating the coronation of Petrarch, granted the office to Chaucer, with a yearly pension of 100 marks and a tierce of Malvoisie wine. Ben, rare old Ben Jonson, mentions Henry Scogan as the laureate of Henry IV., John Kay, or Cain, was court-poet under Edward IV., and Andrew Bernard held the same office under Henry VII. and Henry VIII. John Skelton received from Oxford, and subsequently from Cambridge, the title of poet-laureate; and Spenser is spoken of as the laureate of Queen Elizabeth, because of his having received a pension of £10 a year when he presented her the first books of the "Faerie Queen." In 1619 the "order" was formally established by James I. who granted Ben Jonson, by patent, an annuity for life of 100 marks, and thus secured his services. In 1630 the laureateship was made a patent office in the gift of the Lord Chamberlain. The salary was increased from 100 marks to £100, and a tierce of Canary wine was added, which was commuted

in Southey's time for £27 a year. There was from that period a regular succession of laureates. The performance of the annual odes was suspended after the final derangement of George III. in 1810. The poet-laureate from the time of Southey has written what he chose and when he chose. Wordsworth wrote nothing in return for the distinction, and Tennyson has written very little. The following is the list of the laureates from Jonson's day to date:

Ben Jonson.....	1630-1637
Wm. Davenant.....	1637-1668
John Dryden.....	1670-1688
Thomas Shadwell.....	1689-1692
Nahum Tate.....	1693-1714
Nicholas Rowe.....	1714-1718
Lawrence Eusden.....	1719-1730
Colley Cibber.....	1730-1757
Wm. Whitehead.....	1758-1785
Thomas Warton.....	1785-1790
Henry James Pye.....	1790-1813
Robert Southey.....	1813-1843
Wm. Wordsworth.....	1843-1850
Alfred Tennyson.....	1850

GAMBETTA.

Wm. DAVENANT. JAMES CROSSING, Kan.
Would like a short sketch of the French leader,
Gambetta. E. E. E.

Answer.—Leon Gambetta, the French statesman, was born at Cahors, of a Genoese family, Oct. 30, 1838. He studied law, and entered the bar of Paris in the year 1859, and soon acquired fame as a forensic orator, having been retained in political cases at the capital and in the provinces, while he became very popular on account of his advanced republican opinions. In March, 1869, on the occasion of the prosecution of a newspaper at Toulouse, he received a most enthusiastic reception in the south. At the general election held the same year he stood for Paris and Marseilles, as a representative of the "irreconcilable opposition," and was returned by both constituencies, but elected to take the seat for the last-named city. In January, 1870, he made a violent attack upon the Ollivier Ministry, and when the empire crumbled he was nominated Minister of the Interior, where he exhibited administrative powers of a high order. When a serious misunderstanding took place between the Delegate Government at Tours and the National Defense Committee at Paris regarding the contemplated election of Deputies, Gambetta was elected by his colleagues to proceed to the former city and explain the position of affairs at the capital. He left Paris Oct. 7, 1870, in a balloon named the "Armand Barbes," accompanied by a secretary and an aeronaut, passed safely over the Prussian lines, and reached Rouen in the evening. He proceeded to Tours, assumed the direction, and for some months was virtually dictator of all those provinces of France which were free from the Germans. In consequence of a disagreement with the Paris Government he resigned, and went to Spain, where he remained in seclusion for some months. He returned to France, and regained a seat in the Assembly, and in June, 1880, was elected President of the Chamber of Deputies.

AN ILLINOIS TOWN.

No. 81 CLARK STREET, Chicago.

1. Please give me information as to the number of

inhabitants in Jacksonville, Ill., the lay of the country around, high or low, and wooded; how far from the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers; the agricultural products, fruit, etc., most common. 2. In what part of New Jersey are the best fruit and vegetables raised; also, in what part of Michigan? C. B. G.

Answer.—1. In the year 1870 there were 9,203 inhabitants in Jacksonville, and in 1880, according to the census, there were 10,927. The city is pleasantly located in the midst of an undulating and fertile prairie in the center of a flourishing county—Morgan—and near a tributary of the Illinois River, which is about twenty miles or so distant on the west, while the State capital is only thirty miles away on the east. The county has an area of about 530 square miles, and is drained by several streams; the prairies which the county contains are slightly undulating, and interspersed with groves, and the population is quite large; the inhabitants rank high as enterprising, thrifty, intelligent people. There are fine schools of learning at Jacksonville, and several of the State institutions, besides a live and well-conducted local press, large churches, and all the other evidences of prosperity. In a direct line the county seat of Morgan County is about forty miles from the Mississippi. 2. For certain kinds of fruits the western and southwestern parts of Michigan are the best. The central portion of New Jersey forms the market garden which supplies New York and Philadelphia, while the southern part is famous for its peaches.

AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION.

STREATOR, Ill.
What method or form is adopted when it is proposed by Congress to amend the Constitution?

C. R. T.

Answer.—The Constitution makes the following provision in regard to amendments: "The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the State, or by convention in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year 1808 shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate."

MAL DE MER.

ELK CREEK, Neb.

Is there any known remedy for sea sickness?

G. W. K.

Answer.—Some authorities claim there is, others affirm there is no cure until dry land is reached. It seems to be the fact that for some persons there is no escape, while in many instances sea-sickness may be wholly prevented by a free use of cathartics and anti-bilious remedies a day or two before departure on a voyage. One writer suggests that a belt be worn around the waist, the belt to be made with gores so as to exactly fit the body, and stiffened with whalebone like a corset, and worn as tightly as the

person can bear it; and it is suggested that sailors wear a belt which is usually drawn much tighter than most ladies' belts are worn. Among the other remedies recommended is potassium bromide, five grains three times a day, limiting the food to milk and lime water, equal parts. Hydrate of chloral is also recommended, but should be administered by a physician, while nitrite of amyl is looked upon by another authority as a cure for 90 per cent of all the cases treated; three drops are inhaled from a handkerchief held close to the nose, the patient being in bed; but this should be in the hands of the doctor. The best way to get rid of all the abominations incident to the heaving deep is—don't get sea sick, have perfect confidence in the ship's physician, for a better can't be found or picked up on the way; and be consoled with the thought that persons who are sea sick are always bound to be the better for it when they reach the land, as that keeps the patient hopeful, and don't change the condition of the dissatisfied stomach.

CELLULOID.

KELLOGG, Minn.

What is celluloid made of? Is there more than one kind, and is milk, in some form, one of the leading ingredients of one kind of celluloid? CARRIE.

Answer.—Celluloid is made from the cellulose contained in cotton cloth or raw cotton. The cotton is treated to a weak solution of nitric acid. This has the effect of making a pulp of cotton very much like paper pulp. After the acid has acted the pulp is treated to a copious water-bath that in a large measure washes out the acid. Then it goes through a partial drying process, and a large quantity of camphor gum is mixed with it, and it is rolled into sheets ready for the drying room, when it is dried on hot cylinders, the same as paper is dried. It can be softened by steam, but hardens again when it is dry. Celluloid, when ready for the market, burns as easily as ordinary sealing-wax.

LOADSTONE.

HOLLIDAY'S COVE, W. Va.

1. Why is the loadstone found only in the North? 2. What shape is it in when in its natural state? 3. When and by whom was it first applied to maritime uses? J. W. HAGERTY.

Answer.—1. Probably from the fact that the nations that have done most in the line of discovery, experiment, and invention are those in the Northern hemisphere. The natural magnet is found in various parts of the earth. 2. The natural magnet, or loadstone, is a species of iron ore found in irregular or crystalline fragments, and occasionally in beds of considerable thickness. 3. Its property in attracting small pieces of iron was recognized at a very early date by the Greeks, and its wonderful directive power has been known to the Chinese from time immemorial.

CENSUS FACTS.

MINERAL POINT, Wis.

1. How many citizens or inhabitants is it necessary for a Territory to have to become a State? 2. What is the population of the following States, according to the census of 1880: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri? 3. The population of San Francisco, Cincinnati, and Milwaukee? T. J.

Answer.—1. The theory is that a Territory shall have enough citizens as would entitle it to

a member of Congress. 2. The following are the census returns of the States named:

New York.....5,033,810 Illinois.....3,078,769
 Pennsylvania.....4,282,786 Iowa.....1,624,620
 Ohio.....3,198,239 Missouri.....2,168,804

3. The cities are: San Francisco, 233,956; Cincinnati, 255,708; Milwaukee, 115,578.

COINAGE STATISTICS.

GEORGETOWN, Ill.

1. How many pieces of money were coined in the years 1804 and 1843? What were the denominations and what are their value? 2. How old is Robert Lincoln, Secretary of War?

JOHN A. LUCAS.

Answer.—1. Thereports of the Director of the United States Mint show the following figures:

Year.	Eagles.	Half-eagles.	Quarter-eagles.
1804..	\$97,950	\$152,375	\$8,317.50
1843..	2,506,240	4,275,425	1,327,132.50

2. Secretary Lincoln is 38 years of age.

JOHN WILKES BOOTH'S BODY.

MIDDLETOWN, Iowa,

Where was John Wilkes Booth buried?

A. W. FRENCH.

Answer.—The body of Booth was first interred in the arsenal at Washington. Then the remains were removed, at the request of the relatives, to Baltimore, where they were buried in Green Mount Cemetery, in the same lot with his grandfather, father, and other members of the family. There has been a great deal of discussion as to the final disposition of Booth's body, but this is authenticated by persons in high social and official circles at Washington, who were in a position to know the facts at the time.

THE IDES OF MARCH.

ALDEN, Iowa.

What is the meaning of the "Ides of March"?

M. EDDY.

Answer.—In the Roman calendar the ides were the 15th day of March, May, July, and October, and the 13th day of the other months. The eight days preceding the ides were named from it, and styled the first, second, third, etc., day from the ides. Under the empire the Senate sat regularly on the ides and on the calends, with the exception of the ides of March, the anniversary of Caesar's death, which was regarded as a "dies ater," a day of mourning.

ILLINOIS' FIRST RAILROAD—BANNER DISTRICTS.

CARPENTERSVILLE, Ill.

1. Which was the first railroad in Illinois, the one from Chicago to Elgin or the one from Springfield to Naples? 2. Which is the banner district of the Republican party of the United States? Please give us the majorities in the ten best Republican and in the ten best Democratic districts in the United States.

H. P. G.

Answer.—1. From the work "History of the Early Settlers of Sangamon County, Ill.," by the venerable John C. Power, who now resides at Springfield, the following is taken: "The first rail laid in the State was at Meredosia, on the Illinois River, May 9, 1838, on what was called the Northern Cross Railroad. The first locomotive arrived at the same place Sept. 6, 1838, on the steamboat Chariton, and was put on the track and first turned its wheels on Nov. 8 following. It required more than three years to complete the road to Springfield. The first locomotive was run into Springfield Feb. 15, 1842, on what is now the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad. George Gregory was the engineer, and Thomas M. Averitt was the fireman, both of whom are yet living

in this county." The Galena and Chicago Union Railroad was chartered Jan. 16, 1836, and some work was done—the charter allowing three years from its date, as the limit of the time in which work upon it should be commenced, to comply with which provision the company commenced the enterprise in 1838. The road was finally completed to Cottage Hill, sixteen miles, in December, 1849, to which place, says a writer, their rickety old second-hand engine and cars (the best they were able to procure), ran on a slipshod foundation of wooden stringers faced with strap iron. 2. Some figures, which have been carefully prepared from the returns of last fall's elections, are given and will no doubt be of interest to a very large number of our readers. From these it will be seen that Nebraska is the banner Republican district in the United States, electing a Congressman by a plurality of 29,013 votes, and that the next district in this list is the First of Kansas, which gave a plurality of 25,872 for the Republican nominee, and the Third District of the same State gave a Republican plurality of 24,118. Texas heads the list on the Democratic side, its Third District gave the Democratic nominee a majority of 34,979, and the Sixth District of the Lone Star State gave the Democratic nominee a majority of 27,251. But the following will show where the "large majorities" are rolled up for the candidates of the great political parties:

State.	District.	Rep.	Dem.
*Alabama.....	Sixth.....	....	10,043
*Georgia.....	Eighth.....	....	11,325
Illinois.....	Fourth.....	12,326	....
Iowa.....	Fourth.....	13,209	....
Iowa.....	Eighth.....	11,374	....
Iowa.....	Ninth.....	13,837	....
Kansas.....	First.....	25,872	....
Kansas.....	Third.....	24,118	....
Kentucky.....	Seventh.....	....	11,107
†Louisiana.....	Fourth.....	....	10,808
Michigan.....	Third.....	11,528	....
Michigan.....	Fifth.....	11,389	....
Minnesota.....	Third.....	12,624	....
Mississippi.....	First.....	....	10,628
Missouri.....	Fourth.....	....	18,698
Nebraska.....	.....	29,013	....
New York.....	Seventeenth.....	16,739	....
Ohio.....	Nineteenth.....	12,638	....
South Carolina.....	Third.....	....	18,105
South Carolina.....	Fourth.....	....	16,205
†Texas.....	First.....	....	15,131
†Texas.....	Second.....	....	14,430
†Texas.....	Third.....	....	34,979
†Texas.....	Fourth.....	....	12,113
†Texas.....	Sixth.....	....	27,521
Wisconsin.....	Seventh.....	12,185	....

Those unmarked are pluralities; those marked thus * are where there was no opposition; those marked thus † are where there was a majority.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATIONS.

MALTA, Ill.

What proportion of the sovereigns of Europe, during the last 100 years, have died a natural death and died in office? What proportion have died by assassination or other violence?

N.

Answer.—The history of Europe's rule for the last century is a record which is anything but attractive to the royal families. If space could be given here to the recital of all the attempts made on the lives of the sovereigns of Europe the record would be simply appalling. Only the more recent and important of these are enumerated, covering the past third of a century.

There is not a royal family in Europe that has not had occasion to dread the cup of the poisoner, the bullet of the assassin, the dagger of the regicide, the conspiracy of the gun-powder or dynamite plotter, from the time, in 1790, when Joseph II. of Austria, as is alleged, met his death by poisoning, to the tragic murder of the Czar of all the Russias. The last third of a century will afford material enough to show the character and range of these attempts. The Duke of Modena was attacked in 1848. The year following, in June, Prince William (Emperor of Germany) was threatened at Nieder-Ingelheim. In the years 1852 and 1853, respectively, Queen Victoria and Napoleon III. were attacked. The Duke of Parma was fatally stabbed in 1854, and in 1855 Napoleon, at Pianori, was fired at. Queen Isabella of Spain was attacked and King Ferdinand of Naples was stabbed by Melano in 1856. Napoleon III. was conspired against in 1857, and in 1859 the same ruler had the Orsini attack to encounter. The Emperor of Germany was shot at twice by the student Becker in 1861 and in 1862 the Queen of Greece was shot at by Brusois, also a student, while the same year Napoleon had another conspiracy against him. The Czar was attacked in St. Petersburg in 1866, and at Paris in 1867 was attacked, together with several other crowned heads, by Berezowski, a Pole. Prince Michael of Serbia was killed in 1868, and General Prim, of Spain, was assassinated in 1870 at Madrid. The Spanish Minister Zorilla was attacked in 1871, and in 1872 King Amadeus of Spain was likewise threatened. Again St. Petersburg comes to the front and in 1873 is noted as being the place where the life of the venerable Emperor of Germany was in jeopardy. In 1877 the Czar was attacked by Solovief, and the year following the Emperor of Germany was assailed by Hodel and Nobeling; while the same year King Alphonso, of Spain, was attacked and King Humbert, of Italy, was threatened by Passanante. These events were followed Dec. 21, 1879, by another attempt to assassinate the Czar, by blowing up the cars near Moscow, but the baggage train was by mistake destroyed, and the car containing the royal party escaped; and the same year King Alphonso was again threatened. The explosion in the Winter Palace of the Czar is so recent that it only needs to be referred to, while the assassination which ended this series of attempts is still in the minds of all.

DOMINICAL LETTERS, JULIAN PERIOD, ETC.

ALDEN, III.

Please tell us the meaning of the following names and figures in this year's almanacs: Dominical letter, B; Epact, 30; Golden Number, 1; Solar Cycle, 14; Roman indiction, 9; Julian period, 6594. D.

Answer.—The Romans used the first eight letters of the alphabet (A to H) to mark the consecutive days of their recurring nundinal period. The early Christians adopted the same plan for marking the days of the week, dropping the last one (H) as unnecessary. In the church calendar A has always stood for the first of January, B for the second, etc., G for the seventh, and then the

cycle began again with A on the eighth; A returns in like manner on the 15th, 22d, and so on. Each day of the year has thus its calendar letter, and the letter which falls on Sunday is the Dominical Letter of the year. Feb. 28 has always the letter C, and March 1 has always the letter D. Feb. 29, in leap-year, has, therefore, no letter provided for it; and this makes a change in the Sunday letter after February, so that in leap-year there are two Dominical Letters. As the common year contains fifty-two weeks and one day, the Dominical Letter changes from year to year, going backward one place for every common year, and two places every leap-year. This mode of representing the days of the week has been uninterruptedly employed in the calendar of the church throughout the world from the earliest ages of Christianity. The Epacts are used to determine Easter Sunday, on which the dates of all other changeable feasts of the church depend. The Golden Number is also useful for the same reason. The cycles used in chronology are three, the cycle of the sun, the cycle of the moon, and the cycle of indiction. The cycle of the sun, or solar cycle, is a period of time after which the same days of the week occur on the same days of the year. If the number of days in the year were always the same, this cycle could only contain seven years; but the order is interrupted by the intercalations. In the Julian calendar the intercalary day returns every fourth year, and the cycle consequently contains twenty-eight years. This cycle is supposed to have been invented about the time of the first Council of Nice, but the first year of the first cycle is placed nine years before the commencement of the Christian era. Hence the year of the cycle corresponding to any given year in the Julian calendar is found by the following rule: Add nine to the date and divide the sum by twenty-eight; the quotient is the number of cycles elapsed and the remainder is the year of the cycle; should there be no remainder, the proposed year is the twenty-eighth, or last of the cycle; in the reformed calendar this rule can only apply from century to century, for the order is interrupted by the omission of the intercalary day, every hundredth year. The cycle of indiction, or Roman indiction, is a period of fifteen years, not astronomical, but entirely arbitrary; to find the number of any year in the cycle of indiction, add three to the date, divide the sum by fifteen, and the remainder is the year of indiction. The Julian period was a term of years produced by the multiplication of the lunar cycle nineteen, solar cycle twenty-eight, and the Roman indiction fifteen. It consists of 7,980 years, and began 4,713 years before our era. By subtracting 4,713 from the Julian period, our year is found; by adding 4,713 to our year, 1881, we have 6,594.

OLD BANKING SYSTEM.

ROCHELLE, III.

Please give a description of the old United States banking system, what it was, how it operated, etc.

J. K.

Answer.—The system in vogue previous to the act of 1864 was simply that which placed the

charter of all banks of issue and deposit in the hands of the several States. In 1856 and 1857 there were about 1,400 of these State institutions; in New England alone there were 507 banks and branches, with a capital of \$114,611,752. At that time an important feature in New England banking was the "Suffolk banking system," through which the notes of all New England banks were collected and redeemed at the Suffolk Bank at Boston, each bank making a stipulated deposit for that purpose, amounting in the aggregate to \$300,000. The older banking system of the United States dates back of the State banks. During the Revolutionary war the country was extremely poor, with few industries except agriculture, and with no precious metals to speak of. Congress, May 10, 1775, made preparation to issue Continental paper, \$2,000,000 of which were put in circulation on June 22 following. These issues aggregated \$300,000,000, and depreciated so much that eventually they became valueless, although laws were passed making them a legal tender for the payment of debts. Then a plan was submitted to Congress, May 17, 1781, by Robert Morris, for a national bank, the principal provisions of which were: The capital to be \$400,000, in shares of \$400 each, each share to have a vote; that twelve directors be chosen from those entitled to vote, who at their first meeting shall choose a president; that the directors meet quarterly; that the board be empowered from time to time to open new subscriptions for the purpose of increasing the capital of the bank; statements to be made to the Superintendent of the Finances of America; that the bank notes payable on demand shall by law be made receivable for duties and taxes in every State, and from the respective States by the Treasury of the United States; that the Superintendent of the Finances of America shall have the right at all times to examine into the affairs of the bank. This bank became an important auxiliary in aid of the finances of the government, and so continued to the end of the war. Then followed the first Bank of the United States, commonly called Hamilton's bank, which was chartered in 1791, and continued till 1811. From that time to 1816 the fiscal service of the government was performed by banks operated under State law. In 1816 the second Bank of the United States was created; its capital was to be \$35,000,000, in 350,000 shares of \$100 each; \$7,000,000 of the stock to be subscribed by the United States, and the remaining \$28,000,000 by individuals, companies or corporations. The bank went into operation Jan. 7, 1817, and continued till 1836, when it ceased to act under the charter granted by the United States, but the same year was re-chartered by the State of Pennsylvania, with the same capital. On winding up its affairs in 1840, after paying its debts there remained nothing to the stockholders, the entire capital having been sunk.

THE BIBLE REVISION.

WANDA, III.

Give as much information as convenient concerning the persons engaged in revising the New Testament.

How many ministers are engaged in the work? And how many from the United States? L. S.

Answer.—The committees on revising the Bible embrace seventy-nine active members, fifty-two in England and twenty-seven in America, and among them are very many of the finest Bible and Greek and Hebrew scholars of the world of all the Protestant denominations. The object of this Anglo-American enterprise, according to the Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, is to adapt the King James version to the present state of the English language, without changing the idiom and vocabulary, and to present a standard of biblical scholarship which has made some considerable advancement since the years 1611. The plan is not to give the Christian world a new version of the Bible, but a careful and conservative revision of the present version. The new Bible is to read like the old, and the sacred associations are not to be disturbed. The American committee was organized in the year 1871 by invitation and with the approval of the British revisers, and commenced its work in the following year. Like the British committee, it is composed of leading scholars selected from different denominations, and divided into two companies. These companies have met once a month in their own rooms in the Bible House at New York. Professor Wm. Henry Green, D. D., LL. D., of Princeton Theological Seminary, is Chairman of the Old Testament Company, and Professor George E. Day, of the Divinity School of Yale College, is Secretary. Of the New Testament Company, Ex-President Theodore D. Woolsey, D. D., LL. D., New Haven, is Chairman, and Professor J. Henry Thayer, Theological Seminary, Andover, is Secretary. The two committees, the British and the American are virtually one organization, and are in constant communication with each other, and all corrections, alterations, and changes from the King James translation are considered and agreed upon, and but one version adopted for Britain and America. The British committee is officered as follows: Old Testament, the Rt. Rev. Edward Harold Brown, D. D., Bishop of Winchester, Chairman; the New Testament, the Rt. Rev. Charles John Elliott, D. D., Bishop of Gloucester, Chairman.

JOHN AND JOHN Q. ADAMS.

ARMSTRONG, Erath Co., Texas.

What relation was John Q. Adams to John Adams? Please give a short sketch of their lives.

W. B. KEITH.

Answer.—John and John Quincy Adams were father and son. John Adams was born at Braintree, Mass., Oct. 30, 1735, graduated at Harvard University in 1755, instructed a class in Latin and Greek, and then studied law, settling at Quincy. He was a member of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1777, and was among the first to recommend an independent government. He was chosen, in 1777, Commissioner to the Court of Versailles, and when he returned to America was chosen a member of the convention called to prepare a form of government for Massachusetts. In 1779 he was appointed Min-

ister Plenipotentiary to negotiate a peace, and in 1780 was appointed Ambassador to Holland. He served on a number of commissions to form treaties, and in 1785 was appointed Minister to London. He returned to America after an absence of nine years, and in March, 1789, the new Constitution of the United States went into operation, and he became the first Vice President, an office he held during the whole of Washington's administration. He became President March 4, 1797. After his term had expired he retired to his farm at Quincy, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and died July 4, 1826, with the same words on his lips which, fifty years before, on that day, he had uttered on the floor of Congress: "Independence forever!" John Quincy Adams was born at Braintree, now Quincy, Mass., July 11, 1767. When 10 years old he went to Europe with his father, and when 15 was Private Secretary to the American Minister to Russia. He graduated at Harvard in 1787, studied law at Newburg, and settled at Boston. From 1794 to 1801 he was American Minister to Holland, England, Sweden, and Prussia. From 1803 to 1808 he was a Senator in Congress; in 1809 he was appointed Minister to Russia, and in 1814 assisted in negotiating the treaty of Ghent. He was Secretary of State under President Monroe, and was elected President in 1825, serving one term. In 1831 he was elected a Representative to Congress, and continued so till his death, which occurred in the Speaker's room two days after falling from his seat in the House of Representatives, Feb. 23, 1848. His last words were: "This is the end of earth; I am content."

FACTS ABOUT FOREIGN LANDS.

1. Name the States of the Austrian Empire. Turkey, Spain, and Italy. 2. Give the area of Asia, Africa, and Australia.

Answer.—The Austrian Empire comprises the provinces of Lower Austria, Upper Austria, Salzburg, Styria, (Steiermark), Carinthia, Carniola, Coast Land Tyrol, and Vorarlberg, Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Galicia, Bukowina, and Dalmatia; these are known as the German Monarchy. The Kingdom of Hungary consists of Hungary, Croatia, and Slavonia, Transylvania, and the Town of Fiume. It was decided at the Congress of Berlin, by article 23, of the treaty signed July 13, 1878, that "the Provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be occupied and administered by Austria-Hungary;" the new provinces are therefore Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Novi-Bazar. Practically belonging to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, although not incorporated with it by any treaty, is the small principality of Liechtenstein, inclosed in the Austrian province of Tyrol and Vorarlberg. Turkey is composed of Turkey in Europe and Turkey in Asia, and the tributary states are Egypt, Bulgaria, and Eastern Roumelia. Spain has fifty provinces. The possessions of Spain are: in America, Cuba and Porto Rico; in Asia, Philippine Islands, Caroline Island, and Palaos, and the Marian Islands; in Africa, Fernando Po and Annabon. Italy comprises sixty-nine provinces. 2. The area of Asia, in square

miles, is 16,771,879; Africa, 11,244,958; Australia, 2,972,916.

TENNESSEE CAMPAIGN OF '62.

ORION, III.

Please state who planned the Tennessee campaign of 1862.

INQUIRER.

Answer.—It may be said in reply that General Grant was among the first to suggest it, and was the first to carry out the plan. To throw light upon this, several quotations from well known authorities are given. Adam Badeau says: "Early in February, 1862, after repeated applications to General Halleck, his superior officer, Grant was finally allowed to move up the Tennessee River against Fort Henry, in conjunction with a naval force. The gunboats silenced the fort, which surrendered on the 4th, before the troops arrived. Grant immediately made preparations to attack Fort Donelson, about twelve miles off, on the Cumberland River. Without waiting for orders he moved his troops to the latter point, and on the 12th began the siege." To confirm this another paragraph may be quoted, this one from "The Civil War in America," by the Comte de Paris: "Toward the middle of January Grant and Foote proposed to Halleck to undertake the reduction of Forts Henry and Donelson by land and water at once. But, after having approved their plan, this General postponed its execution from day to day. It required the most urgent solicitations to obtain his permission to commence the campaign." Other authorities might be quoted in this same line. It is claimed by the friends of Buell and Halleck and others that their favorites planned the campaign, and at one time the discussion of this question was the topic of the day. It is certain that on Sept. 1, 1861, Grant was placed in command of the district of Southeast Missouri, with headquarters at Cairo, and Sept. 6, *without orders*, he seized Paducah, at the mouth of the Tennessee River, and commanding the navigation both of that stream and of the Ohio. This was the first move in the Tennessee campaign.

RELIGION OF THE PRESIDENTS.

MARSHALL, III.

How many of the Presidents of the United States have been professors of the Christian religion and members of church?

H. M. BURR.

Answer.—Washington and Garfield were the only ones who were church members, but all, one excepted, were men who revered Christianity. Adams married a minister's daughter, and was inclined to Unitarianism. Jefferson was not a believer, at least while he was Chief Magistrate. Madison's early connections were Presbyterian. Monroe is said to have favored the Episcopal Church. John Quincy Adams was like his father. Jackson was a Presbyterian and died in the communion of that church. Van Buren was brought up in the Reformed Dutch Church, but afterward inclined to the Episcopal Church. Harrison leaned toward the Methodist Church, and Tyler was an Episcopalian. Polk was baptized by a Methodist preacher after his term of office expired. Taylor was inclined to the Episcopal communion. Fillmore attended the Unitarian Church, and

Franklin Pierce was a member, but not a communicant, of a Congregationalist Church at Concord, Buchanan was a Presbyterian, General Grant attends the Methodist Church, and President Garfield is a member of the Church of the Disciples.

OWEN LOVEJOY.

RIPON, WIS.

Please give me the biography of Owen G. Lovejoy, of Illinois, who figured quite prominently in the politics of that State and United States Congress.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Owen Lovejoy was born at Albion, Kennebec County, Me., Jan. 6, 1811, and worked on a farm till he was 18 years of age. He taught school and thereby obtained the means of securing a college education, which he received at Bowdoin. Mr. Lovejoy was a minister of the Congregational Church at Princeton, Ill., from 1838 to 1854, resigning his pastoral service to take his place in the Legislature of Illinois the year last named. In the year 1856 he was elected a Representative to the Thirty-fifth Congress, and was re-elected to the Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh, and Thirty-eighth Congresses, serving on the Committees on Revolutionary Claims, Public Lands, and as Chairman of the Committees on Agriculture and for the District of Columbia, and also as a member of the Committee on Territories. Mr. Lovejoy was present when his brother Elijah was killed, and took an active part in the anti-slavery agitation, for which efforts he was often subjected to fines and imprisonment. He died at Brooklyn, N. Y., March 25, 1864.

REVENUE STATISTICS.

EVANSTON, ILL.

Please state the revenue receipts for tobacco and liquors during the year 1880.

T. E. D.

Answer.—The total figures for spirits (internal revenue receipts) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1880, were \$61,185,509; for tobacco, \$38,870,140; for fermented liquors, \$12,829,803. We therefore have from these the following: Total amount collected as per last report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue on these three items, \$112,885,452; total collections (less commissions on sale of stamps), \$123,981,916. Many inquiries are made in regard to how much it costs the government to collect its revenue, and we here state the total cost of collecting the internal revenue in the United States for the last year ending as above indicated: Salaries and expenses of Collectors, \$1,798,954.69 Salaries and expenses of Revenue Agents and sub-officers, 1,955,000.00 For dies, paper, and stamps, 423,558.15 For expenses of detecting and punishing violators of internal revenue laws, 75,000.00 Salaries of officers, clerks, and employees in office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue, 253,330.00

Total cost, \$4,505,842.84

In other words, the expense necessary to collect the revenue is 3.63 per cent of that revenue.

EASTER SUNDAY.

BELLE RIVE, ILL.

What is the origin of Easter Sunday, and why does it not come on the same day of the month in each year?

A. B. BARRETT.

Answer.—The word is from the German "ostern," old Saxon "oster" (rising), and Easter

is the Christian passover or festival of the resurrection of Christ. The English name is probably derived from that of the Teutonic goddess of spring, Ostern, or Eostre, whose festival occurred about the same time as the celebration of Easter. The time of celebrating the festival was a subject which gave rise to heated and acrimonious discussions in the early church, and the question was fully considered and finally settled by the Council of Nice, in 325, for the whole church by adopting the rule which makes Easter day to be always the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after March 21, and if the full moon happens on Sunday, Easter day is the Sunday after. By this arrangement Easter may come as early as March 22 or as late as April 25.

THE WORLD'S LANGUAGES.

CHICAGO.

1. How many languages are spoken in the world? How many dialects are there? 2. How many nationalities are there? 3. What is the first language?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. It is stated by Professor G. A. F. Van Rhyt that there are about 900 languages and 5,000 dialects now known. Another authority states that there are about 1,200 different spoken dialects, while the languages proper from which these have descended may not number more than five or six. 2. Just where to draw the line is the point where authorities differ. The states of Europe, Asia, and America can be given exactly, but it is quite another matter when inquiry is made in regard to Africa or the islands of the sea. 3. Ethnologists differ, as languages can be traced back about so far, and then a halt has to be called.

CORN, WHEAT, AND STOCK.

CAMBERIA, WIS.

What are the five greatest corn, wheat, and stock producing States?

R. W. JONES.

Answer.—In corn, the States are: Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, and Ohio; in wheat, they are Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, California, and Iowa. These are their grades as corn and wheat producing States, according to the last official report of the United States Commissioner of Agriculture. According to the same report, Texas is far in the lead in stock-raising, Missouri is second, Iowa comes next, Illinois a close fourth, and California fifth.

THE ENGAGEMENT FINGER.

WALWORTH, WIS.

To settle a dispute, please state which is the engagement finger?

L. D.

Answer.—The forefinger of the left hand is what is generally called the engagement finger.

ENGLAND'S RULERS.

BLAKESBURG, IOWA.

1. Please give a list of the royal houses of England? 2. Where did each house originate? 3. How long did each house govern England? 4. What kings or queens were members of each house and when did their reigns begin and end?

AUSTIN JAY.

Answer.—1. The Norman line began with William the Conqueror; then come in succession the houses of Plantagenet, Lancaster, York, Tudor, Stuart, the Commonwealth, Stuart-Orange, Stuart, and Hanover. 2. William the Conqueror was the sixth sovereign of Normandy. Henry II, the first of the Plantagenets, was the son of Matilda of Scotland, a direct descendant of Edmund II, surnamed Iron-

side, who was the son and successor of Ethelred II., born in 989, and King of the Anglo-Saxons in 1016. Henry IV., as the last of the Plantagenets (Richard II.) left no children, was the eldest son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, fourth son of Edward III., and of Blanche, daughter and heiress of Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Lancaster, great grandson of Henry III. Edward IV., the first of the House of York, was descended from the fifth son of Edward III., as the Lancastrian kings had descended from the fourth son of the same sovereign. Henry VII., the first of the Tudors, was a descendant of Henry V. James I. of England, and VI. of Scotland, was the son of Lord Darnley and Mary Queen of Scots, and his right to the succession rested on his descent from Henry VII. through his great-grandmother, Margaret. Charles II. was the second child among six of Charles I., and started anew the Stuart line at the restoration. Mary, who with William of Orange, ruled Britain, was a Stuart, as was also Anne, "the good queen." George I., of the House of Hanover, was descended on his mother's side from James I. 3. The following will show the length of the reigns of the several houses:

	Years.
The Norman line	1066-1154
Plantagenet	1154-1399
Lancaster	1399-1461
York	1461-1485
Tudor	1485-1603
Stuart	1603-1649
Commonwealth	1649-1660
Stuart	1660-1688
Stuart-Orange	1688-1702
Stuart	1702-1714
Hanover	1714

4. The following will show at a glance the rulers, There were often a number of queens, and, as space is limited, only the actual rulers' names are given:

Norman—	Tudor—
William.....1066-1087	Mary.....1553-1558
Wm. Rufus.....1087-1100	Elizabeth.....1558-1603
Henry I.....1100-1135	Stuart—
Stephen.....1135-1154	James I.....1603-1625
Plantagenet—	Charles I.....1625-1649
Henry II.....1154-1189	Commonwealth—
Richard I.....1189-1199	Parliamentary
John.....1199-1216	Executive.....1649-1653
Henry III.....1216-1272	Protectorate.....1653-1660
Edward I.....1272-1307	Stuart—
Edward II.....1307-1327	Charles II.....1660-1685
Edward III.....1327-1377	James II.....1685-1688
Richard II.....1377-1399	Stuart-Orange—
Lancaster—	William and
Henry IV.....1399-1413	Mary.....1688-1694
Henry V.....1413-1422	William III.....1694-1702
Henry VI.....1422-1461	Stuart—
York—	Anne.....1702-1714
Edward IV.....1461-1483	Hanover—
Edward V.....1483-1483	George I.....1714-1727
Richard III.....1483-1485	George II.....1727-1760
Tudor—	George III.....1760-1820
Henry VII.....1485-1509	George IV.....1820-1830
Henry VIII.....1509-1547	William IV.....1830-1837
Edward VI.....1547-1553	Victoria.....1837

ROME SAVED BY GEESE.

STERLING, Kan.
MEDIC.

How did a goose save Rome?

Answer.—The story is related of the fourth siege of Rome, in the year 387 before Christ. A number of Gauls, under the command of Brennus, entered Upper Italy, and laid siege to several places. Rome interfered, and by this act simply irritated the invaders who marched

against the "Empress of the World." A battle was fought and the Romans were defeated. Rome was now practically at the mercy of the Gauls. The Senate had not enough men left after the battle to defend the "Eternal City," and so they threw all the men capable of bearing arms into the Capitol, and sent away all useless mouths; the old men and women and children took refuge in the nearest cities. There remained in Rome only a few pontiffs and ancient Senators, who not being willing to survive either their country or its glory generously devoted themselves to death, to appease, according to their belief, the anger of the infernal gods. These were found by Brennus, and for a time their splendid habits, their white beards, their air of grandeur and firmness, astonished the Gauls and inspired a religious fear in the army. Finally, however, the Gauls massacred the Senators, and all who had not escaped were slaughtered, and then they attacked the Capitol. While the Gauls plundered the city, the country round was recovering from its defeat. Camillus was chosen leader of the Romans, and while the Gauls were reveling they attacked the invaders and killed many of them. Camillus was proclaimed the savior of his country, but he refused to do anything as their leader without the order of the Senate and the people shut up in the Capitol. It was almost impossible to gain access to them. A young Roman, however, had the hardihood to undertake this perilous enterprise, and was successful. Camillus was declared dictator, and collected a large army. The Gauls had discovered the traces left by the young Roman, and Brennus attempted during the night to surprise the Capitol by the same path. After many efforts, a few succeeded in gaining the summit of the rock, and were on the point of scaling the walls: the sentinel was asleep, and nothing seemed to oppose them. Some geese, consecrated to Juno, were awakened by the noise made by the enemy, and began to cry as they do when they are disturbed. Maullius, a person of consular rank, ran to the spot, encountered the Gauls, and hurled several from the rock. The Romans were roused, and the enemy were driven back; and ultimately were defeated in open battle by Camillus, who has been called Rome's second founder.

AN OLD ILLINOIS LAW CASE.

BAKER CITY, Oregon.

A lady named Mrs. Packard claims that her husband had her confined in the Jacksonville, Ill., Insane Asylum, because she differed with him in religious belief. She also states that there was a clause in the law passed in 1852, under the head of "Charities," which gave the husband the right to have his wife put into an asylum without an examination. What are the facts in this case? E. R. G.

Answer.—The Mrs. Packard referred to was the wife of Theophilus Packard, the Congregational minister at Manteno, Kankakee County, Ill. She belonged to the Bible class in that church, but in course of time began to grow skeptical in regard to some of the doctrines of the church. This excited considerable comment among the members, and as Mrs. Packard was very positive in her expressions, she was believed by some to be insane. Her husband had her confined in room in his house. Two members of

the church who were physicians were called in. After some conversation with her they pronounced her insane, and she was sent to the Jacksonville Insane Asylum, where she remained three years. The law in force at that time did not, in express terms, give the husband the right to have his wife confined in an asylum, but it was such that he could, by procuring the certificates of two physicians to the effect that she was of unsound mind, have her received at the asylum. The effect of the law was almost the same as if the husband had been given control of the matter, as the procuring of certificates was considered a mere formality, and not much difficulty was experienced by those who desired to have their wives so confined to procure the necessary papers. The accused person had nothing to say in the matter. It was upon the certificates of the two physicians, members of the church, who, perhaps, believed the lady was insane, that Mrs. Packard was sent to the asylum. After remaining in confinement three years she was discharged as incurable. When she went home she was again shut up in a room in the house, and was allowed to see no one. Finally, however, she succeeded in getting the attention of some of the neighbors, through whose efforts she was released. The windows of her room were nailed down, but after attracting the attention of a passer-by, she slipped a note out between the windows. The party into whose hands the note fell, after looking up the law in such cases, got out a writ of habeas corpus, and the lady was taken before one of the Judges of the Circuit Court. An interesting trial, lasting two days, ensued, in which it was developed that she was not and never had been insane. Her husband made strenuous efforts to prove her insanity, but she was discharged. She then wrote and had printed a book, giving the details in her case, and went among the members of the Illinois Legislature, when in session at Springfield, endeavoring to secure a change in the law. After a time she succeeded in getting some of the members interested in her cause, and the result was that the law was so changed as to give a person charged with being insane the right of trial by jury. We have never heard that, since the trial and acquittal, any one has ever seen any indications of insanity in the conduct of Mrs. Packard.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

HILLSBORO, Kan.
Please give an account of the Grange movement, its origin, objects, etc? J. W. E.

Answer.—The Patrons of Husbandry, popularly known as the Grangers, form an organization whose origin dates back only a few years. Mr. O. H. Kelley, a Boston gentleman, in 1866 connected with the Department of Agriculture at Washington, was commissioned by President Andrew Johnson to travel through the Southern States and report upon their agricultural and mineral resources. He discovered agriculture in a state of great depression consequent upon the changes made by the slavery war. There was at the time serious dissatisfaction among the farmers of the West and Northwest in regard to th

alleged heavy rate and unjust discriminations made by railroad companies in their transportation of farmers' products. It was also claimed the middlemen exacted exorbitant prices for agricultural implements, etc. Mr. Kelley concluded that an association, made up of those who were dissatisfied, might be organized, on some such plan as the Order of Odd Fellows or Masons, and that by being mutually helpful and co-operating the one with the other, they could bring about such a state of affairs as would be beneficial to the agriculturalists. He and Mr. Wm. M. Saunders, also of the Department of Agriculture, devised a plan for the organization, and they chose the name "Patrons of Husbandry," and its branches were to be called "Granges." The constitution was adopted, and Dec. 4, 1867, the National Grange was organized at Washington. In the spring of 1868, Mr. Kelley founded a grange at Harrisburg, Pa., one at Fredonia, N. Y., one at Columbus, Ohio, one at Chicago, and six in Minnesota. The movement became very popular, and they were, in a few years, organized in nearly every State and Territory of the Union. The order has its greatest strength in the Northwestern and Western States. The grange has done much to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into more direct and friendly relations, and many advantages, social and economic, have resulted to the members themselves, who may be both men and women who are admitted on an equal footing.

VON MOLTKE.

ROCHELLE, Ill.

What is the nationality of General Von Moltke, Commander-in-chief of the Prussian armies? Give a short sketch of him. READER,

Answer.—Count Helmuth Karl Bernhard Von Moltke was born Oct. 26, 1800, at Parchim, Mecklenburg. His father was a Danish general, and he was educated in the Cadets' Academy at Copenhagen, and at the age of 18 became an officer. In 1822 he entered the Prussian service, and was admitted to the general staff after ten years of arduous studies and labors. He went to Constantinople in 1835, and Mahmoud II., conceiving a high regard for his genius, the Prussian authorities permitted him to serve the Turk in the improvement of the fortifications of Turkish cities in the warfare against the Kurds and against Egypt. In 1839 he returned to Berlin, and was engaged for many years in staff service, and in 1856 became Adjutant of Prince Frederick William, and in 1858 chief of the general staff of the army. In 1859 the rank of Lieutenant General was conferred upon him. He planned the operations in the wars with Denmark and Austria, in 1864 and 1866 respectively. After the battle of Sadowa he made every preparation for marching upon Olmutz and Vienna, but negotiated a five-days' truce, which became the prelude to peace. He was rewarded with the order of the Black Eagle and command of the Kolberg or Second Pomeranian Grenadier Regiment. Besides conferring on him the title of Count and making him large dotations, the Emperor of Germany appointed him General

Field Marshal in 1871, and in 1872 a life member of the upper house.

BISHOP ROBERTS.

WEYANUEGA, Wis.
Please give a short history of Bishop Roberts and his ancestors.

Answer.—Robert Richford Roberts, D. D., was born in Frederick County, Md., Aug. 2, 1776, and emigrated, with his father's family, in 1785 to Ligouier Valley, Pa., where, as one of the bishops of the Methodist Church says, he was found in the woods by the itinerant preachers, "a stalwart youth, in hunting-shirt of tow-linen, buckskin breeches, and moccasin shoes." They supplied him with church literature and licensed him to "exhort" in 1800, and to preach in 1802, in which year he joined the Baltimore Conference, which then embraced the field over the Alleghanies. The young preacher from the backwoods soon became noted for his natural talents and his studious habits. He itinerated in Western Virginia and Pennsylvania for some years, and then was appointed to important churches in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and elsewhere, and in the year 1816 he was elected a bishop. He at once removed his family to his old log cabin in Western Pennsylvania, and then to Indiana, where with his own hands he built another cabin as his "Episcopal palace," made his rude furniture, and ate his first meal in it of roast potatoes only. He did a great work for Methodist missions, and was a gifted preacher as well as a fine administrator. He died in Lawrence County, Ind., March 26, 1843.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES—CHIEF JUSTICES.

ALEXANDRIA, Ohio.
1. What are the names of the wedding anniversaries, and when do they occur? 2. Who have held the office of Chief Justice of the United States since John Jay? L. S. C.

Answer.—1. The wedding anniversaries are as follows:

Year.	Name.	Year.	Name.
First.....	Iron	Thirtieth.....	Cotton
Fifth.....	Wooden	Thirty-fifth.....	Linen
Tenth.....	Tin	Fortieth.....	Woolen
Fifteenth.....	Crystal	Forty-fifth.....	Silk
Twentieth.....	China	Fiftieth.....	Gold
Twenty-fifth.....	Silver	Seventy-fifth.....	Diamond

2. The Chief Justices and their terms of office since the Supreme Court of the United States was created, have been as follows:

Chief Justice.	State whence appointed.	Term of service.
John Jay.....	New York.....	1789-1795
John Rutledge.....	South Carolina.....	1795-1795
Oliver Ellsworth.....	Connecticut.....	1796-1801
John Marshall.....	Virginia.....	1801-1835
Roger B. Taney.....	Maryland.....	1836-1864
Salmon P. Chase.....	Ohio.....	1864-1873
Morrison R. Waite.....	Ohio.....	1874.....

BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE.

CLEAR CREEK LANDING, Ill.
What cause was assigned for the defeat of the Union army at Chancellorsville, where the Union forces was double that of the rebel? G. W. C.

Answer.—Hooker himself said that he had more men than he could use; that he "had fought no battle," because he could not get his men into position to do so; and that he had failed in the enterprise which had been so brilliantly begun from causes "of a character not to be foreseen or prevented by any human sagacity or resources." Greeley gives considerable attention to this battle, and says: "He (Hooker)

admits a total loss of 17,197 men. He adds that a rebel surgeon at Richmond stated the loss of their side in these struggles at 18,000; and it is significant that no official statement of their losses was ever made, and that Pollard is silent on the subject. It is quite probable that, while the prestige of success was wholly with the rebels, their losses were actually more exhausting than ours." The fact is, that, in addition to these things, the accident to General Hooker during the great struggle had much to do with the result.

BRITISH CONSOLS.

BERLIN, Wis.
Give a short history of the English consols. Are they a part of the debt of England? Do they contain an obligation to pay the principal?

Answer.—A considerable part of the debts of Great Britain is made up of consols, known as the 3 per cent consolidated annuities. The government has borrowed money at different periods upon special conditions, generally the payment of an annuity of so much per cent on the sum borrowed, and sometimes by lotteries, as in 1747, in which the prizes were funded in perpetual annuities. Owing to the confusion arising from the variety of the stocks thus created, Parliament in 1757 passed an act consolidating these annuities into one fund, to be kept in one account in the Bank of England, bearing 3 per cent interest. From time to time some additions have been made to the consols, and some diminution has been effected by the operation of the sinking fund, and by the application of surplus revenues. But they are redeemable at the option of the government.

SOLOMON STODDARD.

SHERBOGAN FALLS, Wis.
Please give a biographical sketch of Solomon Stoddard, who was spoken of some time ago in the sketch of Jonathan Edwards. E. F. STODDARD.

Answer.—Solomon Stoddard was born at Boston in the year 1643, and died at Northampton, Mass., Feb. 11, 1729. In the year 1662 he graduated at Harvard, and was the first librarian of the college from 1667 to 1674. He became minister in Northampton in 1669, and was ordained Sept. 11, 1672. In the month of February, 1727, Jonathan Edwards, his grandson, was chosen his associate. In the year 1700 he published "The Doctrine of Instituted Churches," in reply to the work of Increase Mather, entitled "The Order of the Gospel," and an exciting controversy ensued. Mr. Stoddard maintained that the Lord's supper is a converting ordinance, and that all baptized persons, not scandalous in life, though consciously unconverted, may lawfully partake of it. He also wrote several other works which are known to the theologians.

PRONOUNCING THE BENEDICTION.

LANARK, Ill.
What is the origin of the custom of pronouncing benedictions over congregations at the close of religious services? MINISTER.

Answer.—The ceremony of blessing is of very remote antiquity. The patriarchs, before they died, solemnly bestowed their blessings upon their sons. In the Book of Numbers, in the sixth chapter, may be found the words in which the high priest was to bless the people of Israel, and later Aaron blessed the people, "lifting his

hand toward them." In like manner the Master, after the resurrection, and before parting from the disciples, at Bethany, "lifted up His hands and blessed them." In the early church, the bishop or presbyter gave his blessing to the people with his hands extended toward them. Thus the ceremony has grown, until in the church the world-over the custom prevails.

BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

1. Please give a sketch of Baroness Burdett-Coutts' father. 2. Also how much is the Baroness' estate valued at, and how much has she given away? L. J.

Answer.—1. Sir Francis Burdett, father of Baroness-Coutts, was born Jan. 25, 1770, and died Jan. 23, 1844. He traveled several years on the continent on completing his studies at Oxford, and he spent some time in Paris during the early part of the French revolution, where he studied French politics, and adopted principles of more radical reform than had been prominently advanced in England at that period. He married Sophia, youngest daughter of Thomas Coutts, a London banker, and in 1796 was elected a member of Parliament for Boroughbridge, largely through the influence of the Duke of Newcastle, and the year following succeeded to the baronet's title of his grandfather, his father and his elder brothers having died within a few years. In Parliament he advocated some very radical measures, and became very prominent through the investigations suggested by him into the management of various prisons. He had several exciting campaigns, and, although successful in each, was finally "counted out." Then, in 1807, he fought a duel with James Paull, both parties being seriously wounded, and, while recovering, both duelists were nominated for Parliament by the opposing parties of Westminster. Sir Francis was elected by a large majority, and retained his seat for about thirty years. For an article he wrote, denying the power of the Commons to imprison delinquents, he was ordered under arrest, the letter having been declared "libelous and scandalous" by the House; but he barricaded his house, and was apprehended only after a four days' resistance. His commitment to the Tower excited a riot, in which the soldiers killed several persons. He was released on the prorogation of Parliament. Thereafter he opposed the suspension of the habeas corpus act, supported Catholic emancipation, and protested against taxation without representation. He continued till his death to support popular measures, and, owing to political differences with the Melbourne Ministry, he was compelled to resign his Westminster seat, but was, notwithstanding this, again returned. He refused in 1837 to be any longer a candidate in that borough, and was elected for Wiltshire, which he represented till his decease. 2. The property to which the Baroness succeeded has been valued at from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000, or from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000, a sum whose brief business figures are backed by an attractive array of eloquent ciphers. It is difficult to state definitely whether the "young people"—the Baroness and her husband—will struggle

through life with more than say \$75,000 or \$100,000 a year. The benevolent Baroness has expended several fair-sized fortunes on charities of different sorts, such as new churches and new schools in various poor districts throughout the country, as well as the handsome church of St. Stephens, Westminster, with its three schools and parsonage, and more recently another church at Carlisle. She endowed, at an outlay of about £50,000 (\$250,000), the three colonial bishoprics of Adelaide, Cape Town, and British Columbia, besides founding an establishment in South Australia for the improvement of the aborigines. The Baroness also furnished funds for Sir Henry James' topographical survey of Jerusalem, with a view to render the city healthy by a supply of pure water; and she obtained from the East valuable manuscripts for the verification of Scripture. The Baroness was active, further, in her sympathies for the poor and unfortunate of her own sex, and, besides aiding those desiring an education, she provided a shelter and a means of reform for young women who had lapsed out of well-doing. In the place of the once-dreaded "Nova Scotia Gardens" the Baroness erected model dwellings called Columbia Square, consisting of separate tenements, let at low weekly rentals to upward of 300 families; and close to this is the splendid, costly, and commodious structure, Columbia Market, which the Baroness presented as a free gift to the corporation of London. But we have not the space to enumerate this good woman's work; her munificence to the distressed of Girvan, to the starving people near Skibbereen, in Ireland, the Bulgarians, and many other grand benevolent measures.

INAUGURATION DAY.

SANDWICH, ILL.
Was there any particular reason for setting inauguration on the 4th of March? If so, what was it?

REGULAR READER.

Answer.—From the days of John Adams, the Presidents-elect of the United States entered upon the discharge of the duties of their office March 4, except Zachary Taylor, who became President Monday, March 5, 1849; Monroe's second inauguration, and also the inauguration of President Hayes. It is appropriate that the inauguration should take place when the President-elect becomes the President, and that has been the custom.

BRIDGES.

WHITEWATER, WIS.
1. How long is the bridge across the Missouri River at Council Bluffs? 2. How long is the one across the Mississippi at St. Louis, and how much did it cost? W. B.

Answer.—1. The bridge across the Missouri at Council Bluffs and Omaha comprises 11 spans, each span 250 feet in length, or in all 2,750 feet. 2. There are three spans to the St. Louis bridge, the center being 520 feet, and the other two each 502 feet in length. The bridge cost about \$9,000,000.

AUSTRALIA.

LAWRENCE, KAN.
1. Will you please give me some information about the government, present condition, and resources of Australia? 2. What country takes the lead in coloniza-

tion? 3. Does England derive much profit from her colonies?

Answer.—1. The forms of government of the colonies of Great Britain may be described as three in number; first, the crown colonies, in which the crown has the entire control of legislation, while the administration is carried on by public officers under the control of the home government, as, for instance, Sierra Leone; secondly, colonies possessing representative institutions, in which the crown has no more than a veto on legislation, but the home government retains the control of public officers, as the Bahamas and Bermudas; and, thirdly, colonies possessing responsible government in which the crown has only a veto on legislation, and the home government has no control over any public officer, except its own representative, as for example, the Dominion of Canada. Now, New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, and South Australia are all "responsible," while Western Australia is "representative." For a new country, the affairs of the great "island continent" may be said to be satisfactory. There are many mines in Australia, gold, tin, lead, silver, and precious stones being found in many parts. The cereals flourish in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, and all kinds of garden produce are of superior character; almonds, figs, apricots, melons, grapes, quinces, apples, pears, and plums are produced in great quantities. There are vast sheep and cattle interests in Australia, the wool annually exported being simply immense. Recent progress has been uninterrupted and rapid, cities have been built, districts settled, railroads and telegraph lines constructed, and a flourishing state of affairs prevails. 2. There are no recent reports showing the immigration into Australia. 3. The United Kingdom finds a market for many exports, and this is quite an important feature. Rather more than a third of the total imports into New South Wales come from the United Kingdom, and about the same proportion are shipped to it. The commercial intercourse of Queensland is chiefly with the other Australian colonies, and next to them with the United Kingdom. About half the imports to South Australia are from Great Britain, while with Victoria and Western Australia the exports and imports to and from Great Britain are about one-third the entire amount.

A LIVE FROG IN STONE.

GREENFIELD, Ill.

We have been discussing the longevity of frogs. Is it true that they have been found within solid rocks? CARL.

Answer.—This question has been often considered, and much has been said and written upon both sides. We give one statement which appears to be well authenticated, and leave to those who doubt it the work of disproving the facts alleged. In Hardwicke's "Science-Gossip," of Feb. 1, 1867, edited by M. C. Cooke, author of "British Reptiles" and other scientific works, and published in London, is a communication under the head of "Frog in Oolite." The contribution is on page 45, and is from the pen of Simon Hutchinson, Manthorpe Lodge, Grant-ham. The communication referred to opens

with the remark that the writer begs to submit the following certificate to those who are interested in natural history. Then the certificate is given as follows:

"I, William Munton, of Waltham, in the county of Leicester, quarryman, hereby certify that I was witness to the discovery of the stone and frog, now before me (in possession of Mr. Simon Hutchinson, of Manthorpe Lodge, Grant-ham), in the stone quarry at Waltham, from ten to twelve feet below the natural surface of the ground, in solid rock. When the stone was split, the frog appeared alive; in size equal to the cavity therein. It continued to live about ten days after its release, and was afterwards preserved in spirit by the late Mr. Stow, of Waltham. Before the stone was broken, no crack or crevice was anywhere visible. As witness my hand this 1st day of December, 1866. William Munton."

This is an exact copy of the certificate, and the names of the parties and of the places, together with the dates, etc., are given just as they are published in Hardwicke's "Science-Gossip." Mr. Hutchinson adds to this the following: "This discovery is familiar to persons now living at Waltham, besides Mr. Munton; therefore, personal inquiry can be made by the skeptical, or silence, in future, will be most becoming. The skeleton of the frog, and the stone, also, are open for inspection. It is natural to exclaim, How could a helpless frog penetrate solid stone? It is not difficult, however, to imagine a live frog first enveloped in mere mud, which afterward hardens into solid stone, ever remaining sufficiently porous to admit air and moisture enough to maintain torpid existence; and which, like seed of natural vegetation buried immensely deep in the outer crust of the earth, from its first formation, remains dormant, until some accident brings it within the influence of the sun to reanimate or develop, and ultimately exhaust its vitality. As to the age of the animal, I offer no theory."

DR. J. G. HOLLAND.

OSKALOOSA, Iowa.

Will you please give a sketch of the life of J. G. Holland, author of "Bitter Sweet," etc. What is his religious belief? MRS. M. E. MACY.

Answer.—Josiah Gilbert Holland was born at Belchertown, Mass., July 24, 1819, and early became a contributor to literary journals. In the year 1842 he began the study of medicine, and graduated at the Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield. For several years he practiced his profession, edited a literary journal for a short time, and passed a year at Vicksburg, Miss., as Superintendent of Schools. In the year 1849 he became connected with the Springfield, Mass., *Republican* as associate editor, and continued to be a member of the staff of that paper for sixteen or seventeen years. Dr. Holland's "History of Western Massachusetts," published in 1855, is pronounced "one of the most valuable contributions to American local history yet given to the world" by Alibone. "The Bay Path," his first novel, appeared in 1857, and "Timothy Titcomb's letters to the young," a series of letters and essays first published in the columns of the jour-

nal mentioned above, were subsequently collected and issued in volumes, becoming very popular and widely read. In 1858 "Bitter Sweet" was published, and almost every year since there has been some work from Dr. Holland's pen, which has become well known. His "Life of Lincoln" is among the number. Dr. Holland visited Europe with his family in 1869, and soon after his return to America took charge of *Scribner's Magazine*. Since then he has been busy with tongue and pen. In the midst of his arduous duties as a journalist, he has found time to write "Sevenoaks," "Arthur Bonnicastle," and "The Mistress of the Manse," as well as other literary labors, and he is also a popular lecturer, who, however, has been seen too seldom on the platform to satisfy that large part of the public who are familiar with his works. He is a pure, clear, charming writer, vigorous in his efforts for the success of right, a friend of the oppressed, and a high type of the American journalist. He is, we believe, a Congregationalist.

SCIO'S ROCKY ISLE.

SENECA, Kan.

Please tell us something about Scio Island, its location, inhabitants, and give other information.

N. F. MAYNARD.

Answer.—Scio is an island off the west coast of Asia Minor, in the Grecian Archipelago, having an area of about 500 square miles; its length from north to south is thirty-two miles, and its greatest breadth is eighteen miles. It is said that the tragic poet Ion, the historian Theopompus, the sophist Theocritus, and the philosopher Metrodorus were natives of the island, and Homer is called "the blind old man of Scio's rocky isle." Previous to 1822 Scio was the best governed and most prosperous island in the archipelago, and had thriving silk manufactures, and considerable trade with Constantinople, Syria, and Egypt. But in that year of the Greek revolution its inhabitants rose against the Turks, who, however, speedily quelled the uprising, and within two months 23,000 Sciotese, without distinction of age or sex, were put to the sword; 47,000 were sold into slavery, and 5,000 sought safety in other parts of Greece, and before the end of the year only 2,000 remained of the population of 104,000. These are probably more conservative figures than are generally given, but they are believed to be substantially correct. When the recent catastrophe befel the island, it was stated that the population was about 70,000. The chief productions of the island have been wine, silk, cotton, wool, fruit, oil, and gum mastic.

JOHN LANGDON.

VIOLA, Iowa.

Please inform us who Langdon is—the one spoken of by Whittier in a slavery poem, like this: "By Langdon's shade?" Give a biographical sketch of him.

T. E. MOTT.

Answer.—In his "Rise and Fall of the Slave Power," the late Vice President Henry Wilson said: "Langdon, of New Hampshire, would give no sanction whatever to the slave trade." This was when the question came up in the convention which met at Philadelphia in May, 1787, and which gave the country the Constitution of the United States. John Langdon was born at

Portsmouth, N. H., in 1739, and died at the same place Sept. 18, 1819. In the year 1774, the time that tried men's souls, he took part in the removal of the armament and military stores from Fort William and Mary, in the harbor of his native town, and the year following he was a delegate to the Continental Congress. His patriotism was exhibited in 1777, when, as Speaker of the New Hampshire Assembly, he pledged a large part of his property to outfit the brigade with which the gallant Stark defeated the hireling Hessians at Bennington. He also joined his fortunes with the devoted band of Continental soldiers as a volunteer, and later was a member and Speaker of the State Legislature, a member of the Continental Congress, and a delegate to the convention at Philadelphia, in which, as before indicated, he expressed his anti-slavery views. He was chosen Governor of his State in 1788, and a year later was elected United States Senator, an office he held until 1801. When Jefferson became President he offered Langdon the post of Secretary of the Navy, but the patriot declined the honor. He was Governor of his State again, excepting for a period of two years, from 1805 to 1812. The nomination of the Republican Congressional caucus as their candidate for Vice President, with James Madison at the head of the ticket, was offered him, but age—he was then 72—and increasing infirmities impelled him to decline, and the remaining seven years of his life were passed in retirement.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

DUBUQUE, Iowa.

Why is Feb. 14 called St. Valentine's Day, and why celebrated in such a fanciful style?

E. R.

Answer.—It received its name from a bishop who was decapitated at Rome during the Clandian persecution. Many reasons have been given to account for the way the day is celebrated. It is stated by some that its origin is to be ascribed to a custom associated with a Roman festival, held Feb. 15, on which occasion the names of young women were put into a box, and then these were drawn, in lottery fashion, by the men. This practice continued until it was grafted upon a Christian stem and given a Christian name and the sanction of the church, as many other pagan practices were perpetuated. The custom of sending valentines is very ancient. It is held by some that the birds select their mates on that day, and other equally pleasant nonsense is related. There remain, however, traces of this custom among the observances of the people of Northern Europe before the introduction of Christianity among them. The day is observed in commemoration of the good Saint Valentine, whose loving and charitable disposition may be remembered as appropriately in this happy manner as in any other.

THE TEMPLE OF JANUS.

LITCHFIELD, Ill.

Please give a description of the temple of the Latin deity, Janus, and state how many times and how long the gates of this temple were closed. Were they closed previous to the reign of Augustus Octavianus?

J. H. KIMBALL, M. D.

Answer.—The worship of Janus is said to

have been introduced by Romulus into Rome. The first month of the Roman year was named after Janus by Numa, who also dedicated to him near the Forum a covered passage which was often called a temple, and which contained a statue of the god, and had two entrances that were always kept open in war times and shut in periods of peace. It is stated that these gates were closed in the reign of Numa, B. C., 714; soon after the Punic war, B. C., 235; after the battle of Actium, B. C., 30; after the Cantabrian war, B. C., 25; at the general peace under Augustus, B. C., 5; under Nero, A. D. 58; under Vespasian in the year 71, and under Gordian in 241.

S. S. BURDETT.

Give a sketch of the Hon. S. S. Burdett, late United States Land Commissioner?
 PILOT ROCK, Oregon.
 E. BRISTOW.

Answer.—The Hon. Samuel S. Burdett was born in Leicestershire, England, Feb. 21, 1836, and emigrated to Ohio in 1848. He was educated at Oberlin College, and removed to Clinton County, Iowa, in the year 1857, studying law and being admitted to the bar the following year. When the slavery war was forced on the Union he entered the volunteer army as a private in 1861, and rose to the rank of captain. In 1864 he was a Presidential elector from Iowa. The year following he removed to St. Clair County, Mo., and in 1866 was made Circuit Attorney for the Seventh Judicial District. In the year 1868 he was a delegate to the Chicago convention, and was elected a Representative from Missouri to the Forty-first Congress. In 1874 he was appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington, which he held for some time.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

What is the age of the obelisk recently erected in New York?
 DECORAH, Iowa.
 A. H.

Answer.—In this connection a few facts may be given in regard to obelisks in general. It is stated that there are five obelisks yet standing in Egypt; there are also eleven at Rome, three elsewhere in Italy, two in Constantinople, two in France, six in England, one in Germany, and one in America. The obelisk known as Cleopatra's Needle has the following exact dimensions: Height of the perpendicular of the obelisk from its apex to its base, 68 feet 11 inches, and the perpendicular of the sides 64 feet; in volume it is 2,678 cubic feet, and weight, 186 tons. It is held that this obelisk was erected about 1,600 or 1,700 years before Christ. The great question as to Egyptian chronology of course arises, and there is still, and there is likely to be, a wide difference of opinion among scholars, so that it were hazardous to state it at more more than the view of some authorities.

GERMAN SILVER.

I have had a dispute with some friend about how German silver is melted. Please settle the dispute and give full particulars.
 LA PORTE, Iowa.
 G. M. DAWES.

Answer.—German silver, or nickel, known also under the names of white copper and packfong, is an alloy of copper, nickel and zinc, prepared either by melting the copper and

nickel together in a crucible, and adding piece by piece the previously heated zinc, or by heating the finely divided metals under a layer of charcoal, by means of an air furnace of strong draught, and promoting the thorough solution of the nickel by stirring. To destroy its crystalline structure, and so render it fit for working, it is heated to dull redness, and then allowed to cool. At a heat above dull redness it becomes exceedingly brittle; at a bright red heat it melts, and with access of the atmosphere loses its zinc by oxidation.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS—NAVIES.

WESTERN, Iowa.
 1. Give the full value of exports and imports of England from Jan. 1, 1880, to Jan. 1, 1881. 2. The full value of the exports and imports of the United States for the same time. 3. Give full number of vessels in the British navy at present. 4. How many vessels in the navy of the United States?
 G. L. H.

Answer.—1. The statistics from government sources do not cover the calendar but the fiscal year. The total imports into Great Britain and Ireland, according to the most reliable reports, were \$1,814,999,375, and the exports were \$1,243,916,820. 2. The reports of the United States end with the fiscal year June 30. The following show the exports and imports for the twelve months ended June 30, 1880: Total imports, \$760,989,056; gross exports, \$852,781,577. 3. The navy of Great Britain and Ireland comprises 531 vessels, according to the latest official statements. 4. The navy of the United States numbers 146 vessels.

INTERNAL REVENUE STATISTICS.

LE ROY, Mower Co., Minn.
 Is the consumption of spirituous liquors on the increase in the United States? Give the amount manufactured and imported, and also the amount exported and consumed, in each of the past four years.

W. D. STEWART.
Answer.—From the annual report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue we take the following figures, showing the receipts of that department of the public service for the past four years on the two articles of spirits and fermented liquors:

Year.	Spirits.	Fermented liquors.
1877.....	\$57,469,430	\$9,480,789
1878.....	50,420,816	9,937,052
1879.....	52,570,285	10,729,320
1880.....	61,185,509	12,829,803

TREASURERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

BRONSON, Mich.
 Please give the names of all the persons who have held the office of Treasurer of the United States, the order in which they held the office, and the length of time in office.
 J. H. FOSTER.

Answer.—The following is a list of the Treasurers of the United States, with the dates of their appointment and their terms of service:
 Samuel Meredith...1789 John Sloane.....1850
 Thomas T. Tucker.1801 Samuel Casey.....1853
 M. Nourse (ad int.).1828 W. C. Price.....1860
 Wm. Clark.....1828 Francis E. Spinner.1861
 John Campbell.....1830 John C. New.....1875
 Wm. Selden.....1840 James Gilfillan...1877

DISCOVERY OF GLASS.

CHARITON, Iowa.
 When and where was glass first discovered?
 M. J. BURR.

Answer.—There is little or nothing known with certainty in regard to the invention of glass. Some of the oldest specimens are Egyptian, and are traced to about 1,500 years before Christ (by some, 2300 B. C.). Transparent glass

is believed to have been first used about 750 years before the Christian era. The credit of the invention was given by the ancients to the Phenicians. The story is a familiar one, of the Phenician merchants who rested their cooking pots on blocks of natron (sub-carbonate of soda), and found glass produced by the union, under heat, of the alkali and the sand on the shore.

FASTEST TIME BY STEAMER.

CROMWELL, Iowa.
What is the best time ever made by a vessel plying between New York and Liverpool? Please give the name of the vessel and the date of the trip.

CHAS. H. THOMAS.

Answer.—The fastest time on record was made by the steamship *Arizona*, of the Williams & Guion line, from New York to Queenstown, Ireland. The time made was seven days, five hours and thirty-five minutes. This trip was successfully terminated Wednesday, May 18, 1881.

KOSSUTH—GORGEY.

RACEBURG, Kan.

1. Please give a sketch of the life of Louis Kossuth, more particularly after his visit to the United States.
2. A sketch of the life of the Hungarian traitor Gorgey.

FRED W. WIGGINS.

Answer.—1. Kossuth was born at Monok, county of Zemplen, April 27, 1807, of a family that were of Slavic descent, Lutherans and noble. He was an only son, liberally educated, and early became popular with the middle and so-called lower classes. At the age of 27 he took his seat in the National Diet at Presburg as the representative of a magnate; and, although the government determined not to allow reports of parliamentary debates to become current in Hungary, he suggested that they resort to the extraordinary means of a written newspaper, and extracts and comments were dictated by Kossuth to a large number of copyists, and widely circulated. Then when the Diet closed he published reports of the proceedings on lithographed sheets until these were suppressed by the government and he was prosecuted for high treason, and in 1839 he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment, which brought on great agitation. He was liberated after about a year and a half, and in the beginning of 1841 became chief editor of the *Hirlap*, a journal published at Pesth, which began with fewer than 100 subscribers, and in a month they were numbered by the thousands. In 1848, when Hungary was still struggling, Kossuth was created Governor, and held the post through the civil war of 1848-9. After the effort had been crushed Kossuth retired to Turkey, and thence left for the continent of Europe, but was refused permission to travel through France. He sailed in the autumn of 1851 for the United States, the government of this Nation, in accordance with a resolution of the Senate, dispatching the war steamer *Mississippi* to convey him to these shores as the guest of the United States. He arrived here Dec. 5, accompanied by his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Pulszky. Kossuth addressed deputations and meetings at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and elsewhere urging acknowledgment of the claims of Hungary to independence, and the interference of the United States and

Great Britain in behalf of the principle of non-intervention, which would allow the nations of Europe fair play in a new struggle for liberty. The last Napoleon's coup d'état was reported in America a few weeks after Kossuth's arrival, and was fatal to the cause of the Hungarian patriot. He returned to Europe in July, 1852, where for a time he acted in concert with Mazzini and Ledru-Rollin, in writing, speaking, and working against the house of Hapsburg. Efforts were made in 1853 for a rising, but they ended in the banishment from Hungary of Kossuth's mother and sisters, and the execution of Jubal, Noszlopi, and others. Again in 1859, when Napoleon and Victor Emanuel were preparing for a war against Austria, the hope of liberating Hungary was kindled, and Kossuth went to France and Italy, where he was received with enthusiasm, but the attempt was prevented by the peace of Villafranca, and Kossuth returned to England. In the war of 1866 he issued an address to the Hungarians, to rouse them to action, but this was unsuccessful. He was several times since elected to the Diet of Pesth, but declined, and has lived in voluntary exile in Italy, devoting himself to scientific studies and literary labors. 2. Arthur Gorgey, or Gorgei, a Hungarian General, was born in the County of Zips, Feb. 5, 1818, entered the military school of Tula, and was appointed at Vienna to the Hungarian body-guard. He left the army to study chemistry at Prague, but hearing of the rising in Hungary, he went to Buda-Pesth, offered his services, and became a favorite with Kossuth until he became his rival. After the battle of Schmechat he assumed chief command of the Hungarian army. He was driven out of Raab by Windischgratz, was again repulsed at Windschacht, and saved his army by a retreat over the Sturecz Mountain. Then differences between him and the civil government began, he was twice superseded in his command, and on assuming it was alternately victor and vanquished. The Governor and Council resigned 1849, and Kossuth made Gorgey dictator in his place, and shortly after the Hungarian patriot forces laid down their arms. For this it has been charged that Gorgey was a traitor. To give strong color to this, it must be borne in mind that Gorgey became a strong rival of Kossuth, and also that after the surrender he was treated very leniently by an enemy that before and since have been exceedingly severe in their treatment of such prisoners.

PINCKNEY—LEE—SOLDIER STATISTICS.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Iowa.

1. Please give a short sketch of the life of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, one of the Generals of the American Revolution; and also of Harry Lee, another General of that war. 2. What was the exact number of soldiers that were engaged during the War of 1812?

FRANK PULSIFER.

Answer.—1. General Pinckney was the descendant of a distinguished family, was a native of Charleston, S. C., and was born Feb. 23, 1746. He was educated at Westminster and Oxford, England; read law at the Temple, London, and for a time attended the Royal Military Academy, at Caen, France. He was a member of the first

Provincial Congress of South Carolina, in 1775, and was soon after made a Captain, and then Colonel of a regiment of his State. In 1779 he presided over the Senate of his State, and saved his native town from General Prévost, but the following year was taken prisoner, and exchanged in 1782. He was made a Brigadier General in 1783, and after the war resumed the practice of law. He was a member of the convention that framed the Constitution, and declined successively the offices of Judge of the United States Supreme Court, Secretary of War, and Secretary of State, tendered him by Washington. He was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France in 1796. When the hostility of the French Directory caused the rejection of America's conciliatory measures, he withdrew to Amsterdam. On his return to America he was made a Major General by Washington. In 1800 he was a candidate for the Vice Presidency. He died at Charleston, Aug. 16, 1825. General Lee was born in Westmoreland County, Va., Jan. 29, 1756, and died March 25, 1818. At the age of 20 he was appointed a Captain in Bland's Cavalry, and the next year he joined the main army, and soon "Lee's Legion" became famous. His company was Washington's body-guard at the battle of Germantown. For his success in surprising the garrison of Paulus Hook, July 19, 1779, Congress voted him a gold medal, and he was soon after made a Lieutenant Colonel, and during the famous retreat of Greene before Cornwallis, his "Legion" formed the rear-guard. He defeated and killed and captured most of Colonel Pyle's 400, and at the battle of Guilford, Lee encountered Tarleton and drove him back, and again covered Greene's retreat. Lee finally joined Marion, and by a series of vigorous operations reduced Forts Watson, Motte, and Granby, and on his way to join Colonel Pickens he surprised and took Fort Galphin. He distinguished himself at Augusta, at Eutaw, and elsewhere. Lee soon after retired from the service. He was, in 1786, a delegate to Congress, and in the Virginia Convention of 1788, and afterward served in the House of Delegates of that State. He was again in Congress in 1799, where he delivered his eulogy on Washington in which occur the words, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." He was Governor of Virginia from 1791 to 1794. Pinckney was the one who said, "Millions for defense, but not a cent for tribute." 2. The whole number of officers and men in the regular service cannot be accurately given. The following table, at different periods of the war, is the nearest approximation that can be made:

July, 1812.....	6,686	Sept., 1814.....	38,186
February, 1813..	19,036	February, 1815..	34,424

The whole militia force raised during the war was 31,210 officers, 440,412 men; total, 471,622.

HONDURAS.

LA FAYETTE, Ind.

Please give some information about the Republic of Honduras. I would like to have a description of its topography, soil, climate, and products, both agricultural, mineral, etc.; also how the poor people make their living. What would it cost one to go from St.

Louis to Omoa, Honduras, via the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico, first class?

WALLACE RICHARDS.

Answer—The Republic of Honduras has an area of about 40,000 square miles, and a coast line on the Atlantic of some 400 miles, and 60 on the Pacific side. There are several important islands in the Caribbean Sea dependent on this republic. The country is generally mountainous or hilly, but the elevations are not so great as in some of the other Central American States. The river system is quite extensive, there being a number of considerable streams which water well the several departments or provinces of the republic. In minerals, Honduras may be given the first place among the Central American States, and silver is abundant, especially on the Pacific slope of the mountains, while in the Atlantic slopes gold is found along the streams, the placer mines being most extensively worked by the natives and others. In addition to these copper abounds, there being some rich mines. The precious stones, such as opals and amethysts, are numerous, and antimony, zinc, and tin also exist. In the central part of Honduras pine and oak are plentiful, as well as mahogany, cedar, and lignum vitæ. In the northwest part are pine valleys, and peaches, apples, plums, and blackberries are abundant, while wheat, barley, rye, and potatoes flourish in the mountains, and in the less elevated tracts sugar-cane, indigo, cotton, cocoa, oranges, and plantains prevail. In the extreme southern part of the State the staples of the tropics are numerous, and considerable attention is given to grazing; there is also some silver mining. In the department just north of this there are rich mines of gold and silver. The northern part, as indicated, abounds in the precious woods. The climate is hot on the Caribbean coast, but very mild and equable in the highlands. This fact accounts for their being so few important places on that coast. The soil is very fertile, the coast country supplying the tropical products, while the more elevated lands of the interior yield the harvests of European grains with but slight cultivation. There is little of what is known in the United States as agriculture. Recently there has been developed considerable interest in Honduras, but as yet the chief exports are bullion, mahogany, tobacco, cattle, hides, fruits, indigo, and other dye-stuffs. The chief occupation of the people seems to be cattle-raising, mining, and agriculture. The person intending to visit Honduras can go to New Orleans, where trading vessels bound for Ruatan or Omoa may be found. So far as known, there is at present no regular line to the ports of Honduras from the United States.

HEENAN AND SAYERS.

IOLA, Kan.

Please state when and where Heenan and Sayers had their contest, and what were the results; also a brief sketch of the life of each.

INQUIRER.

Answer—John C. Heenan was born at West Troy, N. Y., May 2, 1835, and went to California when he was 17 years of age. At Benicia he remained for two years, where he earned the title of the "Benicia Boy." For three years he was a miner, and then a match was made for him to

fight Yankee Sullivan, but it did not occur. In 1857 Heenan came East and met John Morrissey Oct. 20, 1858, for \$5,000, at Long Point, Canada, the latter winning. Heenan's next fight was with Tom Sayers, April 20, 1860, at Farnborough, England. Of this fight a sporting authority writes: "The battle ended in a wrangle. The stakes were drawn and each pugilist was presented with a champion belt; Heenan's was never paid for, and he had to return it." Heenan's last fight was with Tom King Dec. 10, 1863, the latter being declared the winner. He died in Denver in 1873. Tom Sayers was born at Pimlico, London, England, May 15, 1826, and was a bricklayer. His first encounter in the ring was with Aby Crouch, at Greenwich, March 19, 1849, winning in six rounds. He next met Dan Collins Oct. 22, 1850, the contest taking place first at Edenbridge and then, the police interfering, at Red Hill, but it was declared a draw; another battle was arranged April 29, 1851, when Sayers knocked Collins out of time in forty-four rounds. Sayers had a great fight with Jack Grant, a noted hitter, whom he beat at Mildenhall, June 29, 1852, and also Jack Martin at Longreach, Jan. 26, 1853. His first great defeat was administered by Nat Langham, near Lakenheath, Oct. 18, 1852. Sayers tried very hard to induce Langham to meet him again, but he refused. After that Sayers fought nine or ten battles, winning them all, the most noted being that with Bob Brettie, at Etchingham, Sept. 20, 1859. Then came the contest with Heenan. Sayers retired from the ring, and died Nov. 8, 1865.

PANDORA'S BOX—THE SARACENS.

1. What is the legend of Pandora's box? Know of the significance but not of the myth. 2. Why were the Arabian followers of Mahomet called Saracens, and is there any particular meaning to the word?

MRS. O. B. POLLOCK.

Answer.—1. Pandora was the first created female, and celebrated in one of the early legends of the Greeks as having been the cause of the introduction of evil in the world. Jupiter was incensed at Prometheus for having stolen the fire from the skies, and resolved to punish men for this deed. He, therefore, directed Vulcan to knead earth and water, to give it human voice and strength, and to make it assume the fair form of a virgin, like the immortal goddesses. Minerva was to endow her with artist-knowledge, Venus to give her beauty, and Mercury to inspire her with an impudent and artful disposition. Then she was attired by the Seasons and Graces, and each of the deities having bestowed upon her the commanded gifts, she was named Pandora, or the All-gifted. This wonderful creation was conveyed by Mercury to the dwelling of Epimetheus. This man had been warned by his brother Prometheus to be on his guard, and to receive no gifts from Jupiter, but when he saw Pandora he was dazzled by her charms, and took her into his house and made her his wife. In this dwelling was a closed jar which Epimetheus had been forbidden to open. Pandora's woman curiosity got the better of all other considerations, and the lid was raised, and out flew all the

evils till then unknown to man, and spread themselves over the earth. When she saw the monsters she was terrified, and shut down the lid just in time to prevent the escape of Hope, which thus remained to man, his chief support and comfort. 2. Early writers indicated a particular Arabian tribe by applying the name Saracens to those belonging to it. It is not clear where this tribelived. Neither is the etymology of the word at all certain. The name afterward was applied to the followers of Mahomet, or to those nations that professed the religion of the prophet and invaded Europe in the dark days of Christianity.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

EMPORIA, Kan.
Please give an account of the Suez Canal, telling the plans of the French and English Governments. Who has the controlling interest now? E. E. G.

Answer.—Attention was first called to the subject of a canal across the isthmus of Suez by the great Napoleon during his invasion of Egypt. For years, however, nothing was done. In 1847 France, Great Britain, and Austria commissioned M. Talabot, Robert Stephenson, and Signor Negrelli to make a survey and decide whether Napoleon's survey was correct in the point that the level of the Red Sea was thirty feet higher than that of the Mediterranean, and they found the two seas had exactly the same level. The canal project was never so favorably entertained by the British as by the French. The whole length of the navigation is eighty-eight geographical miles; of this distance sixty-six miles are actual canal, formed by cuttings, fourteen miles are made by dredging through lakes, and eight miles required no works, the natural depth being equal to that of the canal. The cost of the whole undertaking, including the harbors, is placed at about \$100,000,000. In doing this wonderful work it is stated that there have been about 80,000,000 cubic yards of material excavated, and at one time 60 dredging machines and nearly 30,000 laborers were employed. For their use a supply of fresh water was conveyed from the Nile at Cairo and distributed along the whole length of the canal, a work in itself of no small magnitude. It is regarded as making a saving of thirty-six days on the voyage from Western Europe to the East Indies. It is difficult to state by whom the controlling interest is held.

JEM MACE, THE PUGILIST.

MCHENRY, Ill.
Please give a sketch of Jem Mace: give his height and weight as close as possible. JOHN POWERS.

Answer.—Jem Mace was born at Swaffham, near Norwich, England, in 1831. His first fight was with Slack, of Norwich, whom he defeated. Then he met Bill Thorpe at Medway, with a similar result. He had a battle with Bob Brettie Sept. 21, 1858, who whipped him in three minutes and two seconds. Mace had several encounters, being successful, when he again met Brettie, and was the victor in eleven rounds. June 13, 1861, he met and won a fight with Sam Hurst, and in 1862 he also defeated Tom King, and then King won a second fight they had in November of that year.

Mace defeated Joe Goss in 1863, and again in 1865, and then he met Allen near New Orleans in 1870, whom he threw in the tenth round. He had a number of agreements to fight, but the authorities broke up the affairs generally, and then Mace went to Australia, where, it is said, he made a fortune. He stood 5 feet 9 inches in height, and his usual fighting weight was about 150 pounds.

GOVERNOR A. G. PORTER.

PROPHETSTOWN, ILL.
Who is Governor A. G. Porter, of Indiana? Please give a biographical sketch of his life. E. P. B.

Answer.—Albert G. Porter was born at Lawrenceburg, Ind., April 20, 1824, and graduated at Asbury University at the age of 19. He was admitted to the bar in 1845, and settled at Indianapolis, and in 1853 was appointed Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Court of Indiana, publishing five volumes. For two terms he served as City Attorney of Indianapolis, was twice elected to the City Council, and in 1853 was elected a Representative to the Thirty-sixth Congress, and was re-elected to the Thirty-seventh, serving on the committees on Judiciary and Manufactures. He was First Comptroller of the Treasury for several years, and held that office, and was in Washington, when he was nominated by the Indiana State Republican Convention for Governor. He was elected by a plurality of 6,953 over Landers, the Democratic candidate. General Garfield, in November, had a plurality in the same State of 6,634 over General Hancock.

PUBLIC SCHOOL MATTERS.

HOPKINTON, IOWA.
1. How much money is spent yearly for public instruction in the United States? 2. How much in Iowa? 3. How many teachers in the common schools of Iowa and in the United States? A. E. ANDERSON.

Answer.—From the latest report of the Commissioner of Education we learn that in thirty-eight States in 1878 there was an income for the public schools of \$86,035,264, and in the Territories there was for the same time a public school income of \$942,837; for the same period the permanent school fund in thirty-two of the States was reported at \$106,138,348, and in one Territory at \$1,506,961. For the same time the expenditure in the States was \$79,652,553, and in the Territories \$877,405. 2. For the year 1877-78, which is the last reported by the bureau at Washington, there were expended for the public schools of Iowa, \$4,692,538. 3. In the public schools of Iowa there are reported 20,584 teachers employed, of whom 7,561 were men, and 13,023 are women. As to the number teaching in the public schools of the United States, it is safe to say there are in the neighborhood of 275,000.

THE OMNIBUS BILL.

TUSCOLA, ILL.
To settle a dispute in school here, please give the provisions of the omnibus bill. HARRY G. RUSSELL.

Answer.—We presume reference is had to the omnibus bill brought forward by the committee of which Henry Clay was the Chairman, May 9, 1850. The provisions of the bill were as follows: 1. The admission of California as a free State. 2. The formation of new States, not ex-

ceeding four in number, out of the Territory of Texas, said States to permit or exclude slavery as the people should determine. 3. The organization of territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah without conditions on the question of slavery. 4. The establishment of the present boundary between Texas and New Mexico, and the payment to the former for surrendering the latter the sum of \$10,000,000 from the National Treasury. 5. The enactment of a more vigorous law for the recovery of fugitive slaves. 6. The abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

SURNAME—FREEZING SEA WATER.

BOLLON, Mo.
1. How, when, and where did surnames originate? 2. Does freezing purify sea water, and make it fit for use? SPARTAN.

Answer.—1. As a recent writer has aptly said, a surname represents the opinion a man's acquaintances had of him, while a baptismal name represents only the parents' choice. There were few surnames in England before the Norman invasion, although some appear in the Saxon records. In the middle of the twelfth century it was thought essential that persons of rank should bear surnames. After the reformation in England the introduction of parish registers contributed to give permanence to surnames. Yet in the beginning of the eighteenth century many families in Yorkshire had none, and it is said that even now few Staffordshire miners bear their fathers' names, but are known by some personal sobriquet. 2. Only so far as it eliminates the saline elements.

THE BATTLE OF SOLFERINO.

DEXTER, Minn.
1. When, and in what country, was the battle of Solferino fought? 2. Did the French and Prussians combine their armies against Austria? If so, who commanded the allies? 3. Was Napoleon III. present at the battle, and what part did he take in it? N. H.

Answer.—1. The battle of Solferino was fought at the village of that name in Lombardy, June 24, 1859. 2 and 3. The allies of the French were the Sardinian forces. The four French corps were under Marshals Baraguay d'Hilliers, MacMahon, Canrobert, and Niel, led by the Emperor Napoleon III, and the four divisions of the Sardinian army were commanded by Victor Emanuel in person. These forces were opposed to an immense Austrian army, under the command of the Emperor Francis Joseph.

THE BRITISH CABINET.

LIMERICK, ILL.
Please state how England's Prime Ministers and Cabinets are constituted—whether appointed or elected, and by whom. How are changes in the English Ministry and Cabinet effected? STUDENT.

Answer.—When a new Parliament is elected in Great Britain the sovereign invites some one or more to confer with his or her Royal Highness in regard to the formation of a Ministry. The member of the Cabinet who fills the position of First Lord of the Treasury is the chief of the Ministry, and, therefore, of the Cabinet. It is at his recommendation that his colleagues are appointed, and he dispenses, with scarcely an exception, the patronage of the Crown. It is not infrequently the case that when a Cabinet Minister has a difference on policy questions with

his colleagues he resigns. When a government measure meets with strong opposition in Parliament, or more particularly when a government measure is defeated, it is the custom for the party in power to appeal to the people, and then another election is had.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

MINERAL POINT, Wis.
1. How many public libraries are there in the United States? 2. How many are there in Austria? 3. Who in the United States Supreme Court is Judge of the Seventh United States Circuit Court? T. J.

Answer.—1. According to the last report of the Commissioners of Education, there are 146 public libraries in the United States. There 3,793 libraries of 300 or more volumes each, and the total number of volumes is estimated at 12,482,671. 2. Figures were reported recently, but they were not known to be official. 3. Justice Harlan, of Louisville, is Judge in the Seventh Circuit, which embraces the districts of Indiana, Northern Illinois, Southern Illinois, Eastern Wisconsin, and Western Wisconsin.

LOSSES IN WAR.

SANDE POSTOFFICE, Iowa.
1. Give the number of men killed on both sides in the civil war in the United States? 2. What was the expense of the war? LEWIS SANDERSON.

Answer.—1. From statistics reported by the Provost Marshal General in 1866, it is learned that the number of casualties in the volunteer and regular armies of the United States during the slavery war was as follows: Killed in battle, 61,362; died of wounds, 34,727; died of disease, 183,287; total died, 279,376; total deserted, 199,105. The number of soldiers in the rebel service who died of wounds or disease, 133,821; deserted, 104,428. These latter are but partial figures. 2. It is estimated that the war cost \$3,000,000,000. The expenditures growing out of the war were, on June 10, 1880, reported by Secretary Sherman as \$6,189,929,908.58.

MILES OF RAILROAD.

JOHNSON CITY.
To settle a dispute, which State has the most miles of railway, and which is second, and which is third? L. A. WILLIAMS.

Answer.—From the last issue of "Poor's Manual" we learn that Illinois is at the head of the list in the length of line, and Ohio comes up a very far-away second, while New York is a close third. The figures are as follows:

State.	Length of line.	Sidings, double track, etc.
Illinois.....	8,844.64	1,624.86
Ohio.....	6,706.22	2,297.72
New York.....	5,962.78	3,571.76

THE GENEVA AWARD.

MORRISONVILLE, Ill.
Who were the public ministers of the United States, Italy, Brazil, Great Britain, and Switzerland who settled the Alabama claims? J. MORRIS.

Answer.—Count Edward Sclopis, named by the King of Italy; Jacob Staemplitz, President of the Swiss Confederation; Vicount d'Itajuba, named by the Emperor of Brazil; Charles Francis Adams, by the President of the United States; and Sir Alexander E. Cockburn, by the Queen of Great Britain.

PATAGONIA.

MORRISONVILLE, Ill.
Please give all the information space will allow of the government of Patagonia. J. M.

Answer.—Little can be said of either the gov-

ernment or clothing of the Patagonians, as there is very little to speak of. There are nine or ten tribes of native Patagonians, and these are generally pastoral in their pursuits. Of recent years several colonies have been established in Patagonia, one under Chilian, the other under Argentine Confederation auspices

OHIO STATE ELECTION IN 1880.

CABLE, Ill.
What were the official returns of the State election in Ohio last October? F. D. SISSON.

Answer.—The vote in Ohio on Judge of the Supreme Court was as follows: McIlvaine, Republican, 364,045; Follett, Democrat, 340,993; London, Greenback, 6,859.

POINTS ABOUT THE PRESIDENTS.

RIVER PARK, Ill.
When and where was each of the Presidents of the United States born, and when and where did those not now living die? NELSON VANNATTA.

Answer.—The following will show when and where the Presidents were born, and when and where they died:

George Washington—Born in Virginia, Feb. 22, 1732; died in Virginia, Dec. 14, 1799.

John Adams—Born in Massachusetts, Oct. 30, 1735; died in Massachusetts, July 4, 1826.

Thomas Jefferson—Born in Virginia, April 2, 1743; died in Virginia, July 4, 1826.

James Madison—Born in Virginia, March 16, 1751; died in Virginia, June 28, 1836.

James Monroe—Born in Virginia, April 28, 1758; died in New York, July 4, 1831.

J. Q. Adams—Born in Massachusetts, July 11, 1767; died in District of Columbia, Feb. 23, 1848.

Andrew Jackson—Born March 15, 1767; died in Tennessee, June 8, 1845.

Martin Van Buren—Born in New York, Dec. 5, 1782; died in New York, July 24, 1862.

William H. Harrison—Born in Virginia, Feb. 9, 1773; died in District of Columbia, April 4, 1841.

John Tyler—Born in Virginia, March 29, 1790; died in Virginia, Jan. 17, 1862.

J. K. Polk—Born in North Carolina, Nov. 2, 1795; died in Tennessee, June 15, 1849.

Zachariah Taylor—Born in Virginia, Sept. 24, 1784; died in District of Columbia, July 9, 1850.

Millard Fillmore—Born in New York, Jan. 7, 1800; died in New York, March 8, 1874.

Franklin Pierce—Born in New Hampshire, Nov. 23, 1804; died in New Hampshire, Oct. 8, 1869.

James Buchanan—Born in Pennsylvania, April 23, 1791; died in Pennsylvania, June 1, 1868.

Abraham Lincoln—Born in Kentucky, Feb. 12, 1809; died in District of Columbia, April 15, 1865.

Andrew Johnson—Born in North Carolina, Dec. 29, 1808, died in Tennessee, July 31, 1875.

The date of Washington's birth, old style, is Feb. 11, and that of John Adams Oct. 19. Sometimes the new and sometimes the old style is given, the above being the former. In regard to Andrew Jackson's birthplace, it is an unsettled question as to whether he was born in North or South Carolina. Several of the Presidents died at Washington, and this is indicated

by the District of Columbia, in place of the State where they passed away.

GEN. HULL'S SURRENDER.

MADISON, Neb.
1. What was the number of men surrendered at Detroit, Aug. 16, 1812, by General Hull, of the United States army, to General Brock, of the British army?
2. Give the reasons, if any are known, why General Hull surrendered.
MRS. E. E. M.

Answer.—1. General Hull, in his official account of the attack of Detroit and its surrender, says that "at this time (on the morning of August 16) the whole effective force at my disposal at Detroit did not exceed 800 men. I could not have carried into the field more than 600 men, and left an adequate force in the fort. There were landed at that time of the enemy a regular force of much more than that number, and twice the number of Indians." 2. In the report referred to above are the following paragraphs, which give the reader some idea of the condition in which General Hull's command was at the time General Brock's forces confronted him: "Being new troops and unaccustomed to camp life; having performed a laborious march; having been engaged in a number of battles and skirmishes, in which many had fallen and more had received wounds; in addition to which a large number being sick and unprovided with medicine and the comforts necessary for their situation, are the general causes by which the strength of the army was reduced." He stated, further, that it became necessary to fight the enemy in the field, collect the whole force in the fort, or propose terms of capitulation. His effective force in the field he claimed would not have exceeded 600 men. Mr. Claypool, father of the Hon. L. W. Claypool, of Morris, Ill., was a soldier in the Ohio ranks at the surrender, and in a journal which he kept, which confirms General Hull's statement, as well as the British account, says that it was well understood "that 1,000 British had crossed at Spring Wells, and that a vast number of Indians were back of the fort, perhaps 1,500." There are many historians who write harshly about General Hull, but later light and calmer judgment seem to be modifying some views of his course during that campaign.

PAUL REVERE.

ST. CHARLES, Minn.
Who was Paul Revere? Please tell us something about him.
E. K.

Answer.—Paul Revere was a patriot who served his country in the Revolution. He was a Boston boy, having been born at "the Hub" Jan. 1, 1735, and died there May 10, 1818. At the age of 21 he served in the campaign of Lake George as a lieutenant of artillery in the Colonial army. Then he devoted himself to peaceful pursuits, becoming a goldsmith, and later a copper-plate engraver, one of the four then living in the colonies. He produced prints illustrative of the repeal of the Stamp Act, of the Boston Massacre, and of the landing of the British troops at Boston; as well as had charge of the engraving of the plates, and other work attending the issue of paper money ordered by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts. Revere was also a mem-

ber of the famous "tea party." He was such a dauntless spirit that he was sent to New York and Philadelphia to carry the news of what had been done at Boston in the tea trouble, and again went on a mission to those cities to secure their sympathy when the decree for closing the port of Boston reached the birthplace of freedom, the cradle of liberty. But that for which he is best known is his famous midnight ride, told in thrilling lines by Longfellow. General Gage prepared an expedition to destroy the military stores of the devoted patriots at Concord. General Warren, on behalf of the Americans, anticipated this movement, and at 10 o'clock on the night of April 18, 1775, dispatched Revere to warn their friends of the danger. Revere rowed across the Charles River, where a horse was in readiness. Then he waited until he saw the signals in the belfry-tower of the Old North Church, that had been agreed upon, and which revealed the route of the British force. The patriot leaders were roused, the foreign regulars were driven back, and "Through the gloom and the light
The fate of a Nation was riding that night;
And the spark struck out by that steed, in his flight,
Kindled the land into flame with its heat."

Revere was subsequently taken prisoner, but was soon released, and became a Lieutenant Colonel in the State forces, and participated in the Penobscot expedition in 1779. After the war for independence he built several foundries and copper works, and in 1795, as Grand Master of the Masonic order, assisted in laying the corner-stone of the Boston State House. In 1871 the town of North Chelsea took the name Revere in his honor.

GEORGE PEABODY.

FLUSHING, Ohio.
Please explain the Peabody Fund, and give a sketch of George Peabody.
I. B.

Answer.—George Peabody was born in South Danvers, now Peabody, Mass., Feb. 18, 1795, of poor parents. He received very little education, and when 11 years old became a clerk in a grocery store, and then he removed to Georgetown, D. C., where he held a similar position in the employ of an uncle, after which he became a partner with Elisha Riggs in the dry goods trade in New York and Baltimore. In 1829 he rose to be the head of the firm, and nine years after removed to London, where he went into the banking business in 1843, his house becoming the headquarters of Americans in that great city. His benefactions were numerous, and princely in amount, and include \$200,000 to his native town to found an institute, lyceum, and library; aided in fitting out Dr. Kane's Arctic expedition, in 1852; gave \$300,000 for the establishment at Baltimore of an institute of science, literature, and the fine arts, which he increased to \$1,000,000; \$2,500,000, in 1862, as a fund for building houses for the poor in London; \$150,000 to establish at Harvard College a museum and professorship of American archaeology and ethnology; an equal sum for the endowment of a department of physical science at Yale; he created a "Southern educational fund" of \$2,100,000, besides donating \$200,000 to va-

rious objects of public utility; he also created the Peabody Museum at Salem, Mass., with a fund of \$150,000; contributed \$60,000 to Washington College, Virginia; \$50,000 for a Peabody Institute at North Danvers; \$30,000 to Phillips Academy, Andover; \$25,000 to Kenyon College, Ohio, and \$20,000 to the Maryland Historical Society, as well as endowing an art school at Rome. He left, besides, a fortune of \$5,000,000 to his relatives. Queen Victoria offered him a baronetcy in recognition of his benefactions, but he declined it, and then that sovereign presented him with her portrait. The corporation of London conferred upon him the freedom of the city, and the citizens erected a statue, by W. W. Story, which was unveiled in the Royal Exchange by the Prince of Wales, July 23, 1869, while Mr. Peabody was on his last visit to America. He died at London Nov. 4, of the same year. His remains were conveyed to the United States in the British ship-of-war *Monarch*.

BOYCOTT AND "BOYCOTTING."

LENA, ILL.
Please inform me as to the origin and meaning of the word "Boycotting," and oblige
W. E. WHITE.
WELLINGTON, ILL.

What is the meaning of "Boycotting," and where does it come from?
A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The expression "Boycotting" has become historic. Its origin was as follows: A Captain Boycott was the agent of a land-owner in Ireland. His policy proved to be distasteful and offensive to the tenants, and such was their feeling in the matter that they asked the landlord to remove him. This the landed proprietor declined to do, and in return the tenants and their friends refused to work for or under Boycott. They would not harvest his crops, and they made an agreement among themselves that none of them or theirs should assist or work for him in the harvest. His crops were endangered, when relief arrived in the persons of certain Ulster men, who, under the protection of the troops, harvested the crops of Boycott. The defensive league of the tenantry was much more powerful and effective than might be guessed by the single instance of the combination referred to above. The ramifications of their compact were very numerous and extensive. For example, it was decided that if any one had any dealings with Boycott, or those who represented him, then no one was to have any dealings with that person. If a man worked for Boycott he was to be looked on by his old neighbors and friends as a total stranger; no one was to sell to or buy of him; no one was to know him. The effect of this agreement, when carried to the extent hinted, was just what its authors proposed. And "Boycotting" has become a very forcible phrase.

GENERAL G. K. WARREN.

BUFFALO HART, ILL.
Please give a short sketch of Major General Warren, who commanded the Fifth Army Corps under General Grant.
JOHN E. CONSTANT.

Answer.—General Gouverneur Kemble Warren was born in 1830 at Cold Spring, N. Y., and graduated in 1850 at West Point. He entered the engineer corps, and in 1856 was made First Lieutenant. He became Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth New York Volunteers in May, 1861, and in

August, Colonel. In September, 1862, he was Brigadier General, and in May, 1863, Major General. He was engaged in surveys in the West for several years before the war, and from 1859 to 1861 was assistant professor of mathematics at "the Point." He was engaged in the Peninsular campaign, was wounded at Gaines' Mill, engaged in the battles of Manassas, Antietam, and Fredericksburg; was the chief topographical engineer with the Army of the Potomac from Feb. 4, 1863; was at Chancellorsville, and was again wounded at Gettysburg. He was for about eight months in command of the Second Corps, and was in command at the combats of Auburn and Bristoe Station. He commanded the Fifth Corps from March, 1864, to April, 1865, in the Richmond campaign. He was engaged at the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, the siege of Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, and Five Forks. He was breveted Brigadier and Major General, United States army, March 13, 1865, for Bristoe Station, and for gallant and meritorious service during the rebellion. He has been the author of works on explorations in Dakota, and the country between the Platte and Missouri Rivers, as well as on battles of the slavery war.

THE TRENT AFFAIR.

VICKSBURG, MICH.
Please inform me how the United States got out of the trouble of seizing Mason and Slidell aboard the British ship Trent.
A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—President Lincoln and Secretary Seward, then at the head of the Department of State, pursued a wise course. When Great Britain demanded reparation for the insult and the immediate liberation of the traitors, James M. Mason and John Slidell, Mr. Seward replied in an able and cautious paper. It was admitted that the seizure was not justifiable according to the laws of nations, and a suitable apology was made. The rebels were released, put on board a vessel and sent to their destination. Two objects, very important then and since, were accomplished. A war with Great Britain was averted, a conflict which at that stage of the slavery strife would have been hazardous to the cause of the Union. But still another question was settled by the affair. For three-quarters of a century the United States had contended that Great Britain had no right to search American ships and take men out of them. President Lincoln and his far-seeing advisers recalled the causes of the war of 1812. The President said; "Captain Wilkes (who commanded the United States frigate *San Jacinto*) undoubtedly meant well, but it will never do. This is the very thing the British captains used to do. They claimed the right of searching American ships and taking men out of them. This was the cause of the war of 1812. Now, we cannot abandon our own principles; we shall have to give these men up, and apologize for what we have done."

GETTYSBURG CEMETERY—SHILOH.

GALESBURG, ILL.
1. How many dead, of either side, lie buried in the National Cemetery at Gettysburg? 2. What, from the latest developments, was the number of the forces on

either side engaged at Shiloh the first and second day?
H. R.

Answer.—1. The National Cemetery at Gettysburg, containing the remains of Union soldiers who fell in the battle of Gettysburg, occupies about seventeen acres on Cemetery Hill, adjoining to the village cemetery. The number of bodies interred there is 3,564, of which 994 have not been identified. The Confederate dead mostly lie on the wide field, except such as have been removed to the Hollywood Cemetery at Richmond. The Union troops above enumerated are buried in semi-circular lines, whose center is occupied by the monument. The dead of each State are ranged in sections, separated by radiating pathways, and continuous lines of granite blocks are placed at the heads of the graves and marked with the names and regiments of the brave ones who sleep there. There are eighteen States represented in this encampment of the dead. 2. It is stated by General Badeau that on the first day of the fight General Grant had 33,000 men, and that on the evening of that day General Lew Wallace came up with 3,000 more. General Buell's command was added the next day. The rebel Beauregard had 40,355 men when he went into the fight. Generals Grant and Buell lost 1,700 killed, 7,495 wounded, and 3,022 missing, and the reported loss of the rebels was 1,728 killed, 8,012 wounded, and 957 missing.

DUMAS—A BRITISH VETO.

SHUEY'S MILLS, Wis.
1. Is Alexander Dumas dead: if so, when did he die, and where was he born? 2. Was not his grandmother a negress? 3. How many books has he written, and is he not a very rapid composer? 4. Is there any provision in the English Constitution by which a bill can become a law when vetoed by the Queen?
E. E. LOCKWOOD.

Answer.—1. Dumas, the younger, is alive. He was born at Paris, July 28, 1824. 2. His great-grandmother was a negress. 3. He has written about thirty different books of kinds and tendencies. This is evidence enough of the rapidity of his literary labors. 4. In regard to the veto power of the sovereign of Great Britain, there is this to be said: No ruler has exercised this for nearly 200 years, and no one probably will. The veto, however, if exercised, would be absolute. On this subject one writer remarks: "The royal veto was common enough in ancient times among the Tudor and the Stuart monarchs, but it has practically ceased to exist. No Prime Minister would dare advise the Crown to exercise the prerogative."

HABEAS CORPUS.

MARENA, Kan.
Please explain the origin and privileges of the writ of habeas corpus.
HENRY RAY.

Answer.—One of the purposes for which this ancient English writ was used was to recover freedom which had wrongfully been taken away. Personal liberty was always asserted by the common law from the earliest ages, and it was assailed by kings who would be tyrannical. The great provision of the Magna Charta was, "that no freeman should be seized or imprisoned but by the judgment of his equals or the law of the land." The terms "equals" and "peers" have reference to an indictment or trial by jury

or other body, of which the office and functions are equivalent to those of jurors. It is the law alone that can imprison, and not the sovereign, nor any representative of the sovereign, whether the sovereignty resides in one person or a body, or more than one body of men. This principle lies at the foundation of every free government. The great charter of England did not enact the above as a new rule of law, but only declared it to be the law of the land. It was evaded at times by courts and sheriffs who owed their existence to royal favor, and in the reign of Charles I. it was practically powerless. The English statute has been copied in the United States, without essential change, the variations from it being only such as would, in the opinion of the various Legislatures, make its provisions more stringent, and the security it gives to liberty more certain and available. Space forbids giving the provisions of the statutes of habeas corpus, but the idea, the principle, can be seen from the foregoing. The writ is now suspended only in rare instances and in times of gravity and peril to the country.

MARY TUDOR, QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

PONTANA, Kan.
Please give a brief sketch of the early life and education of Mary Tudor, Queen of England.
BESSIE GREEN.

Answer.—Mary was the daughter of Henry VIII. and of Catharine of Aragon, and was born at Greenwich Palace, Feb. 18, 1516, and died at St. James' Palace, Nov. 17, 1558. It is related that her early education was severe, her tutor being the Spanish scholar, Vives, who afterward was imprisoned for opposing the divorce of Catharine of Aragon. When Mary was only 2 years of age, it was proposed by treaty to marry her to the dauphin, son of Francis I., of France, and in 1522 she was betrothed to the Emperor Charles V., but this was not of long life. Two years later it was proposed that she be settled by a Scottish match. Henry then tried to have Francis I. wed her, but that came to nothing. Catharine desired Mary to marry a son of Lady Salisbury, whose brother, Warwick, had been murdered by Henry VII., on the demand of Ferdinand of Aragon, before he would consent that his daughter should marry a prince of the Tudor line. This son was the famous Reginald Pole, afterward Cardinal. The Duke of Orleans, son of Francis I., sued vainly for her hand, and James V. of Scotland asked her in marriage, with similar results. There were various other negotiations for her hand, among those desiring to marry her being the Prince of Portugal, the Duke of Clives, and the Duke of Bavaria. Then followed the Duke of Brunswick, the Margrave of Brandenburg, and the Infante of Portugal, and finally, after these experiences, she was married to Philip of Spain, in 1554.

THE FATHER OF ENGLISH POETS.

CAMANACHE, Iowa.
Why was Chaucer called "The Father of English Poets?" Please give a biographical sketch of him.
J. W. B.

Answer.—Geoffrey Chaucer was born probably in London about 1330 or 1340, and died there in 1400. There is not much known defi-

nity of him. He became a page to Edward III., and was given an annuity by that King. Later, he was gentleman of the bed-chamber to the King, and was sent abroad several times on foreign missions. Then he was Comptroller of the Customs of London, and then was dispatched on another mission. When Edward died he had to rely on his connection with John of Gaunt, whose wife's sister he had married, for his favors from the court, which were continued by Richard II. and by Henry IV. Chaucer was buried in Westminster Abbey, the first poet who was given sepulture there. His literary works were written at a time when "the morning star of the Reformation," Wycliffe, shone across the dark ages, and when the new era of literature and religion was coming to the world through Britain. With the utmost propriety, the greatest fitness, therefore, may Chaucer be called the father of English poets.

HAMILTON'S SON'S DUEL.

1. Had Alexander Hamilton a son who was killed in a duel? If so, the time, place, his antagonist, and the cause of the duel?
COVEL, III.
SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. Alexander Hamilton's eldest son, Philip, was killed by G. I. Eaker, in a duel which occurred in 1802. One writer, in describing the duel in which the great Hamilton fell, says: "At the first fire Hamilton fell, mortally wounded, on the same spot where, a short time previously, his eldest son had been killed in a duel." The trouble which terminated in the death of young Philip Hamilton grew out of the political differences and conflicts which arose after the death of Washington, and which finally culminated in the killing of Hamilton by Aaron Burr.

THE TOWER OF PISA.

Please give a short account and history of the celebrated tower of Pisa.
LAWN RIDGE, Neb.
EVA C. HINES.

Answer.—The leaning tower of Pisa is cylindrical in form, 179 feet in height and 50 feet in diameter, and is divided into eight stories, each having an outside gallery projecting seven feet. It was begun in 1174 by Bonanus, of Pisa, and William, of Innspruck. The summit is reached by 330 steps. The tower leans about thirteen feet from the perpendicular. This was manifest before the tower was completed, and was guarded against by extra braces and an adaptation of the stone in the highest portion. There are seven bells on the top, the largest of which weighs 1,200 pounds, and are so placed as to counteract by gravity the leaning of the tower.

THE BURLINGTON BRIDGE.

Please give the length and entire cost of the railroad bridge at Burlington, Iowa, thus settling a dispute.
BRIMFIELD, Ill.
W. D. HUEY.

Answer.—The bridge is 2,676 feet long, and the entire cost was \$1,000,000.

A STATE QUESTION.

Please inform us whether a State can be divided after it is admitted into the Union, and if so, how?
FISHER, III.
G. W. H.

Answer.—The first clause of section third of article four of the Constitution is as follows: "New States may be admitted into this Union;

but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned, as well of the Congress."

"STAR ROUTES."

Please give a full explanation of this "star-route" business.
GLENWOOD, Kan.
WIGWAG.

Answer.—A "star route" is any route over which the mail is carried by other power than that of steam, as for example, on horseback or by stage or wagon. These are marked in the route book of the Postoffice Department with an asterisk (*), and are termed "star" routes, to distinguish them from the others. Some are very short, only a few miles in length, while others are hundreds of miles in length.

EDWIN FORREST.

When was Edwin Forrest, the tragedian, married? When was begun the divorce suit between him and wife, and which was complainant? Your answer will oblige.
CHICAGO.
SILAS EVANS.

Answer.—While on a visit to England Edwin Forrest became acquainted with Miss Catherine Sinclair, daughter of the celebrated vocalist, John Sinclair, and after a short courtship was married to her in London, June 23, 1837. In 1851 he became dissatisfied with her conduct, and soon after commenced suit for a divorce. A conclusion was reached in January, 1852, and a decree of divorce was granted.

BARBARA FRIETCHIE.

Was there ever any such personage as Barbara Fritchier, of "Frederick Town"?
THE DALLES, Oregon.
S. L. B.

Answer.—Colonel T. W. Higginson's "Young Folks' History of the United States" contains the following: "Whittier's poem, 'Barbara Fritchier,' describes an incident that took place at the capture of this city."

BLENNERHASSETT AND BURR.

Please give a sketch of the life and doings of Blennerhassett as connected with Aaron Burr in his conspiracy against the government.
METOMEN, Wis.
E. REYNOLDS.

Answer.—Herman Blennerhassett was born in Hampshire, England, Oct. 8, 1764 or 1765; was of Irish descent, educated at Dublin, became dissatisfied with affairs in Ireland at that time, and removed to America in 1797, disposing of his estates. His attention was occupied for a period in studying America, and then he bought an island of about 170 acres in the Ohio River, a couple of miles below Parkersburg, on which he erected an expensive mansion, and adorned it with all that taste and wealth could suggest and supply. About the year 1805 Burr made Blennerhassett's acquaintance at the latter's home, and there it is said enlisted him in the scheme in regard to Mexico. It is stated that the plan was that Burr was to be Emperor and Blennerhassett was to be a Duke and be made Ambassador to England. Then he invested considerable sums of money in supplies, arms, and ammunition, and left his home and family and went to Kentucky, where he was informed of the actual designs of the chief conspirator. Finally, President Jefferson published a proclamation

against the plan, and Blennerhassett, to escape arrest, joined Burr's fleet at the mouth of the Cumberland River. He was apprehended later and taken to Richmond to be tried. When Burr was acquitted the case fell through so far as the remainder of the schemers were concerned, and they were released. Blennerhassett returned to Natchez to find his island in the hands of his creditors. He purchased several years after 1,000 acres of land for a cotton plantation near Port Gibson, Miss., but the war of 1812 was against him; then he removed in 1819 to Montreal, practicing law there, but sailed for Ireland in 1822 to prosecute some real or supposed claims there; falling in this he addressed himself to a number of matters, being equally unfortunate. During the remaining years of his life he was supported by a maiden sister who had a small estate. Blennerhassett's wife, the daughter of Governor Agnew, of the Isle of Man, died and was buried in New York by the Sisters of Charity. He died in the island of Guernsey Feb. 1, 1831.

STARR KING—MARDI GRAS.

1. Please give an account of Starr King, mentioned in two or three of J. G. Whittier's poems? 2. On what day or days is the Mardi Gras celebrated in New Orleans? How many years has it been observed? Is it modeled after the Carnival at Rome? If not, what was its origin?

E. J. F.

Answer.—1. Thomas Starr King was born in New York, Dec. 16, 1824, and died at San Francisco, March 4, 1864. His father died just when young King was preparing for college, and instead of pursuing the course planned at first, he became a clerk, and taught school until he was about 20. Meanwhile his attention was especially directed to the study of theology, and in the autumn of 1845 he preached in Woburn, and the succeeding year he was settled over the church where his father had formerly labored, at Charlestown. There he remained for about two years, and went then to the Hollis Street Unitarian Church, where he was stationed until 1860. In April of that year he removed to San Francisco, to assume the pastorate of the Unitarian Church in that city, and the rest of his life was spent at the Golden Gate. Mr. King for fifteen years was well known as a lecturer, and was the author of several works. He was a frequent contributor to the magazines of the day, and was esteemed highly for the originality, force, and elegance of his literary efforts. He was an uncompromising Union man, and did much to make patriotic sentiment on the Pacific coast in the dark days of the slavery war. 2. The Mardi Gras is the festival preceding the first day of Lent, or Ash Wednesday. Most of the distinctive ceremonies now annually performed were originally introduced by the French population as early as 1827, and for many years their celebration was confined chiefly to that class. The day is a legal holiday, and the entire city is for the time ostensibly placed under the control of a king of the carnival, the great "Rex." There are two principal pageants; the first, in the daytime, is the escort of the "beloved Rex" through his favorite city; the other, or night pageant, is known as the "Mystick Krewe of Comus." This has a character

altogether unique. The first display was in 1857. On Twelfth Night (Jan. 6) the "Knights of Momus" have a display analogous to the Mardi Gras, but more exclusively burlesque, and in which they satirize the follies of the age. The arrangements for these celebrations come within the control of quite an elaborate organization, and the ceremonies are looked forward to by thousands all over the Union. The celebration is on Shrove Tuesday, and is in general a day of pleasure in most Roman Catholic countries. It is the Carnival of Italians, the Mardi Gras of the French, and the Pancake Tuesday of former times in England.

MADISON'S NULLIFICATION RESOLUTIONS.

DEFIANCE, Ohio.

1. What were the famous resolutions enunciating the doctrine of State rights introduced into Congress during the session of 1798-99 by James Madison? 2. What was the liberty that France was fighting for against England, Spain, and Holland during George Washington's administration?

H. S. WILLIAMS.

Answer.—The "famous resolutions of '98," were originated by Thomas Jefferson. The South was the stronghold of the State-rights party when John Adams became President in 1797. Madison and Jefferson were on the same side in the struggle. Kentucky, which was a branch of Virginia, was devoted to Jefferson, and he was privately solicited to draft a manifesto, through which Kentucky, in 1798, proclaimed her hostility to Federal rule. Jefferson avowed the authorship of this in a letter more than twenty years afterward. A few weeks later "the same doctrine of nullification, nearly or quite to the full extent of Jefferson's original draft, its virulence, however, somewhat disguised by the generality of its terms, was re-echoed by the Legislature of Virginia in a series of resolutions drafted by Madison." It is impossible here to give space to these resolutions. About a month later they were sent out with an address, probably also prepared by Madison, very able and adroit, containing the entire case of the opposition as against the Federal administration. Then in the Virginia Assembly, at the session succeeding this, Madison brought up a long and elaborate report, assuming to justify the resolutions previously submitted. This is briefly the history of the famous resolutions. Madison was not in Congress in the years named his term having expired in 1797. He, however, went into the Assembly and there exerted great influence. 2. The struggles of France from 1792 must be read carefully by any one who would have anything like a correct and comprehensive view of the causes and objects of those sanguinary conflicts. It is not a question which can be answered in a few lines to the satisfaction of one who would have clear notions of the developments of France.

THE GORDIAN KNOT—BREAD-FRUIT.

OWEGO, Ill.

1. Please decide a disputed question: Can one be a Committee? 2. What was the "Gordian Knot," often referred to? 3. Describe the fruit of the bread-fruit tree. Where is its native country?

LOUISA.

Answer.—1. Webster defines committee as follows: "One or more persons elected or appointed, to whom any matter or business is referred, either by a legislative body or by a

court, or by any collective body of men acting together." 2. Gordius, a half-mythical king of Phrygia, and father of Midas, was a peasant. While he was plowing, an eagle alighted on his yoke o oxen, and remained there until the evening. This was taken as an omen of coming greatness. He went to Telmessus to consult the soothsayers regarding the occurrence, and at the entrance of the place met a prophetess, who instructed him, and whom he afterward took to wife. The legend runs, that years after the oracles told the Phrygians they would find a king in a cart. It is said that subsequently Gordius, with his wife and son, rode up in a cart, and he was declared king. Others relate that Midas was hailed their ruler. The cart was dedicated to Zeus Basileus, and placed in the acropolis of Gordium, a Phrygian city. The legend proceeds to state that an oracle declared that he who was able to untie the artfully made knot by which the yoke was fastened to the pole of the cart would become master of all Asia. Alexander tried to untie it on his march to Persia, and, having failed to do so, cut it asunder with his sword. 3. The fruit of the bread-fruit tree is globular in shape, about the size of a melon, with a tuberculated, or, in some varieties, nearly smooth surface. The fruit ripens at different times on the several varieties, and thus furnishes an almost constant supply. It is gathered for use just before it ripens, and then is found to be filled with starchy matter. Several methods are employed to prepare and cook it, and when ready its taste has been compared to boiled potatoes and sweet milk. The bread-fruit tree is a native of the Pacific islands, where it grows to a height of forty feet or more.

THE NAVIGATION ACTS.

MONTGOMERY, Ill.

1. What were the Navigation Acts passed by the English Parliament, and which were one of the causes of the Revolution? 2. Were the colonists obliged to purchase their goods of English merchants? 3. Were they obliged to transport them on English vessels? 4. How was trade with other countries restricted?

YOUNG HISTORIAN.

Answer.—1. In common with other European nations, England believed that her own commerce would be increased if she compelled all her subjects, in the colonies, as well as at home, to traffic only with the merchants of the mother country. The act of 1651 was, therefore, passed, requiring the colonists to carry on their commerce in English vessels. In the year 1660 foreign vessels were prohibited from entering the colonial ports. In 1663 a duty was laid upon goods shipped from one colony to another, and, two years later, the colonists were forbidden to manufacture any goods which would be likely to compete with English ones in their own, as well as in foreign markets. Then followed, as a supplement to these burdensome laws, the importation act, still more obnoxious and heavy. 2. These laws, like all others, were enacted by a power which supposed it could enforce them, but they were in part, or as a whole, denounced and disregarded by the people of the colonies as unjust and tyrannical. 3. The foregoing shows the character of the legislation of England. 4. It was restricted

in many ways; much of the machinery of government in the colonies was in the hands of those who were Tories: there were nearly always English ships to watch colonial harbors, and, as indicated above, the law was known, and the officers of the law were there to enforce it.

"NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE."

HADDAM, Kan.

Who was the author of the beautiful hymn "Nearer, my God, to Thee," and under what circumstances was it composed?

JOSEPH ENOCHS.

Answer.—Mrs. Sarah Flower Adams was the authoress of the grand hymn. This lady was born in Cambridge, England, in the month of February, 1805. Her father was the editor of a weekly Cambridge paper, and the same authority informs us that her mother was a woman of fine gifts and culture. The sweet hymn-writer was the youngest child, and was early noted for the taste which she manifested in literature, and later in life for great zeal and earnestness in her religious life. She is said to have contributed both prose and verse to the periodicals of her day, and to have had her criticisms in art matters highly esteemed. She wrote a catechism for children, which was published in the year 1845. She married young, was of frail constitution, but was always, even with many creature complaints, very busy with her literary labors. At just what time and under what circumstances she wrote the great hymn is not known. It was first published in 1841, but the authoress never knew the fame which the sacred song brought her. Mrs. Adams died at the age of 44, and since then the lines she penned have been singing themselves round the world.

WASHINGTON—DAVY CROCKETT.

SILVER, Gage Co., Neb.

1. Are there any living descendants of Gen. George Washington? If so, who are they? 2. Please give a sketch of David Crockett.

F. K. ALBERT.

Answer.—1. Washington was childless. 2. David Crockett was born at Limestone, on the Nolachucky River, in the State of Tennessee, Aug. 17, 1786. His father was born in Ireland, and at one time kept a tavern near Knoxville. David was four days at school, had an "unpleasantness" with the master, and finally ran away from home, wandering among drovers and others until he was about 18 years of age. Then he went home, attended school for two months, and soon after married and went to live in a wild part of the State. There he made a reputation as a hunter, and in 1813 he served under General Jackson in the Creek war, at the conclusion of which he settled in Shoal Creek, in a wild region of his native State. The settlers who found their way to the neighborhood were a reckless class, and to bring something like order out of chaos, Crockett was appointed a magistrate. Not long after he was a candidate for the Legislature, his successful campaign being made up of a round of shooting matches and other simple frontier amusements. To serve in the Legislature he was twice re-elected, and then in 1827 was elected to Congress, and again returned in 1829 and 1831. Crockett, from being with the Jackson party in his State, found he was

changed so that he became one of their opponents, and this induced him to remove to Texas, where he took a hand in the struggle then going on between the Texans and Mexico. He was taken prisoner at Fort Alamo, and, with five other survivors, was put to death by order of Santa Anna, March 6, 1836.

PRICE OF CORN IN CHICAGO.

PEORIA CITY, IOWA.

Please give the price of corn in Chicago for the years 1868, 1869, and 1870. P. M.

Answer.—The following table will show the highest and lowest quotations of corn in Chicago for the several months of the years named; the letter "H" means the highest and the letter "L" the lowest quotations for the month:

MONTH.	1868.		1869.		1870.	
	H.	L.	H.	L.	H.	L.
January.....	.80	.81½	.59	.44	.76	.67½
February.....	.80½	.77½	.60	.59	.72	.69
March.....	.83½	.82½	.60	.55	.75	.69½
April.....	.85	.78½	.56	.52	.90	.73½
May.....	.96	.82½	.62	.54	.94½	.81
June.....	.90	.81½	.72	.57	.87	.78½
July.....	.92½	.82	.97	.67¾	.93	.76½
August.....	1.02½	.91½	.97½	.84	.85½	.67
September.....	.99	.88	.89¾	.75	.70½	.57
October.....	.95	.74	.76½	.60	.67	.52
November.....	.80	.68	.57½	.63½	.67	.53
December.....	.78	.52	.81½	.67¾	.65	.45

NATURAL BRIDGE OF VIRGINIA.

EMILLE, Bucks County, Pa.

Was the Natural Bridge in Virginia ever destroyed? If so, when? M. J. BANKS.

Answer.—It still stands, one of the most wonderful structures nature has left to show her handiwork. The bridge spans the mountain chasm in which flows the little stream called Cedar Creek, the bed of which is more than two hundred feet below the surface of the plain. The middle of the arch is forty-five feet in perpendicular thickness, which increases to sixty at its juncture with the vast abutments. It is sixty feet wide and its span is almost ninety feet. Across the top is a public road, and being on the same level with the neighboring country, one may cross it in a coach without being aware of the interesting place. It is on the abutments that many names are carved by persons who have climbed up the face of the precipice. For a number of years the name of Washington, cut in the rock when the Father of his Country was a lad, stood high above those of all the other daring spirits. In 1818, however, a student of Washington College, Virginia, James H. Piper by name, climbed from the foot to the top of the rock, an adventure which has been well described by several leading writers.

MILES STANDISH.

IOWA FALLS, IOWA.

Please give a short sketch of Miles Standish.

MILO HUNT.

Answer.—He was born in Lancashire, England, about the year 1584. He served in the Netherlands, rising to the rank of Captain, and, while not a member of the Leyden Church or congregation, accompanied the Pilgrims in the Mayflower to New England in 1620, and was was chosen captain by those early settlers. He was small of stature, of quick temper, possessed of great courage and determination, and rendered important service to the Pilgrims. He lost his wife during the first winter. He was sent, in

1623, to Weymouth, to protect the inhabitants from an Indian conspiracy, and killed with his own hand their chief, Pecksnot, who had planned a massacre of the whites. He visited England in 1625 and 1626, and returned with supplies for the colonists. He was one of the original founders of Duxbury, giving it the name in memory of the seat of his ancestors in England. He was a magistrate for the remainder of his life. He died at Duxbury, Oct. 3, 1656.

WEIGHT AND COST OF LOCOMOTIVES.

HARVEY'S MILLS, IOWA.

What is the average weight and cost of the engines now used on the narrow and standard gauge railroads? G. M. Y.

NEW LONDON, IOWA.

I saw an article lately concerning the new monster passenger engine just completed in Pennsylvania, weighing 48½ tons. I am under the impression that there were a couple somewhere in that State, a few years ago, weighing sixty tons. Am I correct? What is the weight of our common locomotives?

JOHN A. RETHEMEIER.

Answer.—The average weight of the locomotive engines now on the standard gauge roads is from twenty-five to thirty-five tons. As locomotives are now built, anything above thirty-five tons would be considered heavy, although there have been locomotives built weighing seventy tons. The cost of locomotives for the standard gauge roads is set down at \$10,500. It is usually computed by railroad men that in weight and cost the locomotives on the narrow gauge roads are from one-third to one-half less than those of the standard gauge lines.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS.

LA GRANGE, Ohio.

Please give the number of each of the following religious sects: Protestants, Jews, Catholics, Mohammedans, and Pagans. H. S. HILL.

Answer.—It is a somewhat difficult matter to give more than estimates, the following professing to be the most reliable figures which the statisticians have been able to compile:

Protestants.....	106,000,000
Jews.....	7,000,000
Catholics.....	201,000,000
Mohammedans.....	201,000,000
Buddhists.....	340,000,000
Brahminis.....	175,000,000
Follower of Confucius.....	80,000,000
Sinto religion.....	14,000,000
Eastern Christian churches.....	81,000,000

BRIGHAM YOUNG—COLORADO.

MACOMB, Ill.

1. Was Brigham Young hung for participation in the Mountain Meadows massacre? 2. Is there much game in Colorado, and where can a map of the State be obtained showing the principal places of mountain scenery? A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. He died unhung. 2. The game in Colorado has of late years suffered greatly, owing to the rapid growth of the Centennial State. It has been driven for the most part from its old haunts by the new settlers, and as compared with what was to be found there a few years ago there is not much remaining. Of course, there are great districts that are not yet settled, and game is found, but the palmy days of the hunter there are over.

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY—IRON-CLADS.

BROCKPORT, Monroe Co., N. Y.

1. Please give a synopsis of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. 2. Are the people of British America taxed to support the home government as well as to support the colonial? 3. How many iron-clads are in the United States navy? HERBERT REED.

Answer.—1. The treaty simply pledged the

contracting governments, represented by Sir Henry Bulwer and Secretary of State Clayton, to respect the neutrality laws of the then meditated ship-canal through Central America. Says one writer: "If it (the Clayton-Bulwer treaty) did no other good, it unquestionably, for the time being, allayed the jealousies which so often before then had sprung up between the two countries in regard to the British right of protection on the Mosquito Coast and in the Bay of Honduras." 2. Not directly. 3. There are twenty-four iron-clad screw steamers and two torpedo-boats.

NATURALIZATION QUERIES.

STEWART, III.

1. A comes to the United States from England at the age of 16, his parents remaining in the old country. Can he vote at majority without naturalization papers? 2. He serves three years in the United States army. Does this fact entitle him to vote, without such papers, he having an honorable discharge?

INQUIRER.

Answer.—1. No. 2. If he has served in the army and been honorably discharged, he must obtain from some court of record, "having a seal and a clerk," what is known to the law as a "discharged soldier's final certificate of naturalization," which will be issued on the proper evidence having been submitted to the court, and the applicant himself takes the oath to support the Constitution, and renounces "all allegiance to every foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty."

A NICE QUESTION.

STORM LAKE, IOWA.

It is stated that the amount of gold held in the Treasury of the United States May 1 was \$170,319,754.53. Please explain how the 53 cents in gold came in. It seems to me that the amount held could only be in dollars. Does the gold of foreign countries have anything to do with the 53 cents?

V.

Answer.—The gold at the Treasury is weighed. The statement referred to includes coin and bullion. The bullion in bars is liable to be in any odd number of cents, the value of which is stamped on each bar. The coin is apt to come out odd also, because considerable is lost from coins being worn through circulation.

MONTANA, DAKOTA, AND ASTORIA.

MARION, Ohio.

1. Why were Montana and Dakota so named? 2. Who founded Astoria in Washington Territory, and when?

MAY GOODING.

Answer.—1. The first named Territory received its name from the mountainous country of which it is principally composed, while the latter was named after the great family of Indians known as the Dacotahs, but more commonly called the Sioux. 2. The well-known John Jacob Astor, in the year 1811, founded Astoria on the western coast of North America, near the mouth of the Columbia, as a depot for the fur trade.

LINCOLN'S DUEL.

SUNLIGHT, Neb.

1. Which is the highest mountain in the world? 2. Did Abraham Lincoln ever fight a duel? If he did, when and where did it occur?

CLARA CREMER.

Answer.—1. Mount Everest, a name derived from that of a distinguished officer of the Indian survey, is believed to be the highest summit on the globe. It has, according to Colonel Waugh, an altitude of 29,002 feet, and is the crown of the Himalaya Mountains. 2. Within a few years

there have been published the details of a duel which was arranged between Lincoln and Lyman Trumbull when both were young and when such "meetings" were not uncommon in Illinois. But bloodshed was averted, and the affair was treated as a joke in after years.

WASHINGTON'S ANCESTORS.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb.

1. Will you please state what part of Northamptonshire, England, George Washington's parents came from. 2. In what year did they come to this country?

JOHN RIVETT.

Answer.—1. Within recent years it has been shown that the genealogies accepted by Sparks, and Irving, and other biographers of Washington have been inaccurate. Hence, the family to which he belonged has not yet been satisfactorily traced in England. The former genealogies traced his lineal descent from the ancient family of the name at Washington Manor, Durham, or that at Sulgrave, Northampton. 2. The first American ancestor, John Washington, came to Virginia about 1657 with his brother Lawrence.

SEVERAL REBEL REMINISCENCES.

MARSHALTON, Iowa.

1. Was John B. Floyd, Secretary of War under Buchanan, ever tried on the indictment found against him by the Grand Jury of Washington City, for conspiracy to defraud the government. 2. Is John B. Floyd still living, and if so, where is he?

A. N.

Answer.—1. Floyd was indicted by the Grand Jury of the District of Columbia, as being privy to the abstraction of \$870,000 in bonds from the Department of the Interior, in the winter of 1860, but he failed to appear for trial. 2. Floyd died at Abingdon, Va., Aug. 26, 1863.

POSTOFFICE BUSINESS.

HARVEYVILLE, Kan.

What is the income of the postal service in the United States, and does it pay expenses?

G. A. W.

Answer.—The annual report of the Sixth Auditor of the Treasury, for 1880, shows that the total receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year, were as follows:

Total expenses.....	\$35,905,534
Total receipts.....	33,013,056

Excess of expenses over receipts \$2,892,478

Several facts should be observed in connection with these figures. All the States wherein the receipts have been in excess of the expenditures have been Northern States; not a single Southern State has been able to report that it paid for its postal service. The Territories, excepting Alaska, have had their outlays largely in excess of their income from this source. The States which have had handsome balances in favor of the department are these:

Alaska.....	\$231	New Jersey..	\$138,893
Connecticut....	142,197	New York....	1,816,099
Delaware.....	7,728	Pennsylvania	496,832
Illinois.....	172,025	Rhode Island	114,638
Maine.....	4,869	Wisconsin...	51,065
Massachusetts.	757,210		
Michigan.....	139,619	Total....	\$3,886,736
N. Hampshire.	45,330		

The total receipts and expenditures are given above, but to make the figures perfectly clear a remark is here added: The total receipts by States aggregate \$32,824,846; to which \$183,209 are added for miscellaneous items, making the total receipts \$33,013,056, as given above. The total expenses, by States, amount to \$36,-

088,220, from which are to be deducted for miscellaneous items \$182,686, making the total expenses \$35,905,534. These show the difference between the receipts and expenses to be \$2,892,478, as appears from the previous exhibit. In the table giving the States whose receipts are in excess of their expenses, there will be seen to be twelve States and one Territory named. Of the twelve States ten went Republican last November, and two were carried by the Democrats; in other words, of the nineteen States carried by the Democrats last fall, only two had any receipts in excess of expenses; while of the nineteen States carried by the Republicans in the same election, there were ten whose receipts were in excess of their expenses. New Jersey, and Delaware, the two Democratic States, had combined, \$146,621 in excess of their expenses for Postoffice business; the ten Republican States had \$3,739,884 in excess of their expenses, out of the \$3,886,505 (not counting Alaska's \$231) which were in excess of the expenses. If any more figures were needed to show how the Southern States fall behind in supporting the Postoffice Department, they can be found in the following, which shows why the Postoffice does not pay its own expenses. The names of the States indicated, all Democratic and all Southern, and the excess of their expenses over their receipts, are given:

Alabama.....	\$186,425	Missouri.....	\$240,572
Arkansas.....	525,575	North Carolina	150,340
Florida.....	123,184	South Carolina	67,728
Georgia.....	182,187	Tennessee.....	83,606
Kentucky.....	123,607	Texas.....	701,883
Louisiana.....	187,968	Virginia.....	226,736
Maryland.....	50,451	West Virginia.	36,327
Mississippi.....	106,925		
Total.....			\$2,993,514

WEALTH PER CAPITA.

How much money has the United States in circulation for each of its inhabitants? What would be the wealth of each person in the United States if it was equally divided?

JUNIATA, Neb.

LEVI BOYD.

Answer.—It would be about \$14.55 for each person if it were equally divided among them. These figures are from a recent report of the Director of the Mint of the United States.

CALVIN AND SERVETUS.

HARVEYVILLE, Kan.

At whose instigation was Michael Servetus burned at the stake, and what for?

G. A. W.

Answer.—The story of the life and death of Servetus is one which has given rise to great and, too often, acrimonious discussion. The following may serve to clear up some points which appear to be generally misunderstood, and a re-statement of which may now be appropriate. Servetus, after many wanderings, had been tried and condemned to death at Vienne, in Dauphiny, for heresy, but he escaped and arrived at Geneva in July, in 1553. He remained there in quiet for a time, it seems, and was about to leave for Zurich when, at the instigation of Calvin, he was arrested and conveyed to prison on the charge of blasphemy. This charge was founded upon certain statements in a book published by Servetus that year, and in which "he animadverted in terms needlessly offensive in the Catholic doctrine of the Trinity, and advanced sentiments strongly savoring of

pantheism." Calvin was the accuser. It was finally agreed that the matter should be submitted to the Swiss churches, and a paper containing thirty-eight articles, prepared by Calvin, with the answers of Servetus, was sent to the various churches. The opinion of all was that Servetus should be condemned as a heretic, while there was a difference as to the severity of the punishment that should be inflicted. In October, in the council of sixty that was summoned, the discussion continued for three days, when it was decided that he should suffer death. Servetus was burned to death October 27, 1553. On the morning of the fatal day he had an interview with Calvin, when he asked Calvin's forgiveness, but refused to retract any of his expressions. For his part in this unhappy case, Calvin has been greatly censured, and it has been even charged that he invited Servetus to Geneva; also, that it was at Calvin's urgency that the magistrates condemned Servetus to death; and that it was to gratify a personal pique and through hatred of Servetus that Calvin thus cruelly and relentlessly pursued him. Says Dr. W. L. Alexander: "Of these allegations not one can be proved, and some are undoubtedly false." When Servetus intimated a wish to visit Geneva, if that pleased Calvin, the latter very plainly said it did not please him, and that he would not pledge himself for the safety of Servetus, should he come, but, on the contrary, should prosecute him. The same author contends that Calvin influenced the magistrates to condemn Servetus, only in the sense in which any public prosecutor who pleads before the judge for the condemnation of one against whom he brings a criminal charge may be said to condemn him. So far as "Calvin's influence over the magistrates was unbounded" is concerned, the writer above quoted says "this falls to the ground before the fact that at this time he was in a state of antagonism with the dominant party." It is no doubt, true that Calvin thought persons holding the views of Servetus were deserving of death, if they refused to recant when reasoned with. It is also true that Calvin looked on death by burning as an atrocity, and that he tried to have another form of execution, that by the sword, substituted. It will also be "remembered that the unanimous decision of the Swiss churches, and of the Swiss state government, was that Servetus deserved to die; that the general voice of Christendom was in favor of this; that even such a man as Melancthon affirmed the justice of the sentence; and that only a few voices here and there were at the time raised against it, candid and impartial men will be ready to accept the judgment of Coleridge, that the death of Servetus was not Calvin's guilt especially, but the common opprobrium of all European Christendom."

SENATOR ZACHARIAH CHANDLER.

BARABOO, Wis.

1. Please give a short sketch of Zachariah Chandler.
2. Which is the oldest book in the Bible? N. PRATT.

Answer.—1. The late Senator Chandler was born at Bedford, N. H., Dec. 10, 1813. His birthplace was in the valley of the Merrimack.

fifty miles northwest of Boston, a community of sturdy, thrifty farmers, and the cradle of many stalwart sons, descended generally from Scotch-Irish stock. The late Senator is said to have resembled his mother in face, and to have inherited from her many of her most vigorous traits. As a boy he was healthy, strong, self-reliant, and his "pluckiness" was proverbial; he was a leader among the boys of his neighborhood, an indication of strength of character he so fully developed and exhibited in after years. He received his rudimentary education in a little brick school at Bedford, which is still used, and then attended the academies at Pembroke and Derry, and when about his 17th year taught school for a term. Later young Zacharias, as his name was written in the old family Bible, worked on the farm in summer, and the last season he was at home took entire charge. He had been in a militia company, and fifty years afterward, at the close of his Janesville, Wis., speech, was called upon by Captain Colley, a resident of Rock County, Wis., who commanded the militia of which Senator Chandler had half a century before been a member. The future statesman went into business in 1833, and in September of that year moved West, settling at Detroit, of which in 1851 he became Mayor. The following year he was nominated as the candidate of the Whig State Convention for Governor, and, although he ran considerably ahead of General Scott, Whig nominee for President, yet he failed of election. In 1853 he received the solid vote of the Whigs for United States Senator to succeed Alpheus Felch, but as the Democrats had a majority of forty-eight in the Legislature on joint ballot, it is mentioned merely to show Mr. Chandler's recognized ability at 40 years of age in Michigan. In 1857 he was elected to succeed Lewis Cass in the United States Senate, and was re-elected again in 1863. He was a member of the National Committee appointed to accompany the remains of President Lincoln to Illinois, and was a third time elected to the Senate for the term ending in 1875. In the month of October of that year he was appointed Secretary of the Interior by President Grant. He was the member of the National Republican Committee for his State, chosen in 1876, and was the Chairman of that body during the great struggle which ended in the election of President Hayes. In 1879, Senator Chandler was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Christianity, who had retired owing to failing health, and who had been appointed as the representative of the United States at Lima. He died at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, Nov. 1, 1879, after making a masterly address to the citizens of Chicago, on the political issues of the day. A few days after his sudden death General Grant, then as now a private citizen, wrote of him: "A nation, as well as the State of Michigan, mourns the loss of one of her most brave, patriotic, and truest citizens. Senator Chandler was beloved by his associates, and respected by those who disagreed

with his political views. The more closely I became connected with him the more I appreciated his great merits." 2. It is believed that the Book of Job is the oldest in the Bible.

THE MORMON CHURCH.

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA.

Now that the Mormon question is becoming so prominent, please give us a short sketch of their religion, their form of church government, and something about the powers and duties of their various church officers of the present day.

WILL A. THOMAS.

Answer.—The Mormon Church teaches that there are numerous gods, and that those who have been eminent as saints on earth become gods in heaven. Smith is a god, and no doubt by this time Brigham Young has become something like that, too. The Mormons also believe that Jesus is just above Smith, and that Adam, in turn, is superior to the Savior. All these gods have many wives, and each governs his own descendants, so that the glory of a "saint" when he gets to be a god depends largely on how many wives and children he has, and, therefore, the hold of polygamy on the people. It is held that the ten commandments are the rule of life, but there have been several revelations which considerably weaken the binding force of the Mosaic law. The Mormons condemn infant baptism, although children are considered old enough to be baptized when they reach their 8th year. They practice the baptism for the dead, a living person being publicly baptized as the representative of one or more persons who have died. For instance, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and others have been baptized into the church in this style. It should be said that a community, whose leaders reside at Plano, Ill., reject polygamy and many other of the offensive tenets of the Utah Mormons. In regard to their form of government, it may be stated that the priesthood is organized as follows: The first presidency, the twelve apostles, the high council, the seventies, the high priests, elders, priests, teachers, and deacons. The first presidency consists generally of three persons, with President Taylor at the head, and these persons preside over and direct the affairs of the entire church. The hierarchy is divided into the Melchizedek and Aaronic priesthoods, the former being the higher, the latter being the literal descendants of Aaron and designated by revelation. The first president is elected by the whole body of the church; he is the prophet and seer, and alone has the "right" to work miracles and receive revelations. The belief in a continued divine revelation through the medium of the prophet is the corner-stone of the Mormon church. The work done by the several officials of this sect is, as has been indicated, all under the control of the first presidency, that is a worse despotism than almost any now known.

THE BIBLE—FIRST CATHOLIC BISHOP.

PADUA, ILL.

1. By whom was the Bible first translated into our language, and in what year? 2. Who was the first Catholic Bishop in America, and in what year was he ordained?

J. N. CLINGAN.

Answer.—1. Wycliffe, the "Morning star of the Reformation," is supposed to be the scholar.

who, with the aid of learned associates, made the first complete translation of the Bible into the English language. This great undertaking, it is believed, was completed about 1393, not long before the death of the reformer. 2. John Carroll, who was born at Upper Marlborough, Md., in 1735, was the first Roman Catholic Bishop in the United States. He was appointed to that office in 1789. Carroll traveled in Europe, and when the troubles between the colonies and Great Britain occurred, he returned to America, and was invited by a special resolution of Congress to accompany Charles Carrollton, the patriot, Dr. Franklin, and Samuel Chase on a political mission to Canada, from which it was hoped that great benefits would ensue to the cause of those who were struggling in the colonies for independence. After peace was declared and established, the Roman Catholic clergy of the United States petitioned the Pope for the establishment of a hierarchy in this country, and, at Franklin's instance, Mr. Carroll was appointed Vicar General in 1786, at which time he fixed his residence at Baltimore. As indicated, three years later he was appointed Bishop, and was consecrated in England, assuming the title of Bishop of Baltimore. Not long before his death, which occurred Dec. 3, 1815, he was created Archbishop.

SING SING.

DONGOLA, Ill.

When was Sing Sing, N. Y., first settled, and who named the city, and what is its population, factories, institutions, etc.?
J. F. L.

Answer.—Sing Sing was incorporated in 1813, and is now a place with about 5,000 inhabitants. The village itself is nearly 200 feet above the water, and the far-famed prison is built very near the river. Sing Sing is a name of Indian origin, it is said, meaning "stone upon stone," or from Ossining, "a stony place." The place was settled in the seventeenth century. The town extends back from the river about a mile, and along the river for about two miles from north to south. There are Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, and Catholic churches, an academy over half a century in operation, a military and other schools, several newspapers, cotton-gin and cotton-gin saw factories, lawn-mower, steam engine, and other establishments. The prison is also there, completed in 1830, and since that time it has been enlarged to meet the wants of that part of the State. New York is almost entirely supplied with ice from the neighborhood, while Croton Lake, near by, contributes daily about 60,000,000 gallons of water to the supply of the Empire City. The water is conveyed from the lake, which is chiefly formed by a dam being built across it, through an aqueduct thirty-three miles long, right on to New York. The aqueduct is built of stone, brick, and cement, arched above and below, seven feet eight inches wide at the top, and six feet three inches at the bottom, the side walls being eight feet five inches high.

THE HOOSAC TUNNEL.

MORRIS, Ill.

What range or ranges of mountains does the Hoosac

Tunnel cross? Please give its cost and length, with any other information convenient.
J. R. ALLEN.

Answer.—The Hoosac Tunnel is a little over four and three-quarters miles in length, and made large enough for the passage of two lines of railway trains. It reaches through the Hoosac Mountain, which is the summit range that extends southward into Massachusetts from the Green Mountains of Vermont. There was some experimental work done in 1851, but it was not until 1856 when any actual tunneling was commenced. The cost of the tunnel and thirty-nine miles of adjoining railroad, including the accumulation of interest, has been between \$13,000,000 and \$14,000,000. The tunnel is on the railroad route from Boston via Greenfield to Troy, and is distant from the first-named city 137 miles, and from the last-mentioned place fifty-four miles.

LEGAL HOLIDAYS.

BILLINGS, Wis.

Please inform me what are the legal holidays of the United States and what effect they have on business transactions in the several States?

T. N. MERRILL.

Answer.—We have no national legal holiday, not even the Fourth of July. The several States decide through their law-making bodies what are legal holidays. The Illinois law reads as follows: "The following, to-wit: The first day of January, commonly called New Year's Day; the Fourth of July, and the 25th day of December, commonly called Christmas Day, and every day appointed or recommended by the Governor of this State or the President of the United States as a day of fast or thanksgiving, shall, for all purposes whatsoever, as regards the presenting for payment or acceptance, the maturity and protesting and giving notice of the dishonor of bills of exchange, bank checks, and promissory notes, or other negotiable or commercial paper or instrument, be treated and considered as is the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday," etc.

MUST A SENATOR VOTE.

GREENCASTLE, Ind.

Is there any rule in the United States Senate by which a Senator is obliged to cast his vote when the yeas and nays were called for, if in his seat? If so, what is it?
A. J. FRUIT.

Answer.—The sixteenth rule of the Senate is as follows: "When the yeas and nays shall be called for by one-fifth of the Senators present, each Senator called upon shall, unless for special reasons he be excused by the Senate, declare openly, and without debate, his assent or dissent to the question. In taking the yeas and nays, and upon a call of the Senate, the names of the Senators shall be called alphabetically."

OUVIER.

GILMAN, Ill.

I would like to ask a question: Who was Cuvier?

H. F. MANN.

Answer.—Cuvier was a celebrated French naturalist, whose full name was Georges Cretien Leopold Frederic Dagobert Cuvier, who was born at Montbelaird, then belonging to the Duke of Wurtemberg, Aug. 23, 1769, and died at Paris, May 13, 1832. One writer, in summing up an article on this great man, uses the follow-

ing language: "By universal consent he is regarded as one of the best of men, most brilliant of writers, soundest of thinkers, far-sighted of philosophers, purest of statesmen, and the greatest naturalist of modern times." His brother Frederick also became famous for his work in natural science. He was about four years the junior of his more distinguished brother, and died in 1838 at Strasburg. His last words were: "Let my son place upon my tomb this inscription, 'Frederic Cuvier, brother of Georges Cuvier.'"

FREDERICK THE GREAT.

LIBERTY, IOWA.
Where is the territory situated which Frederick the Great wrested from Maria Theresa, Queen of Hungary-Silesia?
W. T. W. MORRIS.

Answer.—The claims of Frederick the Great gave rise to three wars for the possession of Silesia, which were finally settled by the treaty of 1763. Then what is known as Prussian Silesia was secured to Prussia. This is bounded on the north by Brandenburg and Posen; on the east by Russian Poland and Austrian Galicia; on the south by Austrian Silesia and Moravia, and on the southwest and west by Bohemia and Saxony.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES—COCHINEAL.

WESTERVILLE, IOWA.
1. Who were the Presidential candidates in 1825, and to what parties did they belong? 2. Was Alexander Hamilton an officer in the Revolutionary army? 3. Is there a tropical plant called cochineal?
J. M. PALMER.

Answer.—1. In the year 1824 there were several Presidential candidates, as follows: John Quincy Adams was the candidate of the East, William H. Crawford, of Georgia, as the choice of the South, and Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay as the favorites of the West. All were Democrats, says Dr. J. Thomas, and professed substantially the same political creed. 2. Yes. 3. The cochineal is a plant of Central and Southern America of the cactus family, extensively cultivated for the cochineal insect that lives upon it.

PRESIDENT HAYES' INAUGURATION.

INDIANA, IOWA.
To settle a dispute, please state whether President Hayes was inaugurated on Sunday. If not, who held the office over Sabbath, March 4?
J. F. L.

Answer.—President Hayes took the oath of office as President of the United States on Saturday night, March 3, and again on Monday, March 5, when he was inaugurated. President Grant was the President during the interval indicated.

TWO IOWA CITIES.

MILLERSBURG, IOWA.
Please answer the following, and settle a dispute: Give the population of Des Moines and Dubuque.
E. S.

Answer.—According to the returns of the last census, as given by the Librarian of Congress, the following shows the population of the two cities in the years 1870 and 1880:

City.	1870.	1880.
Des Moines.....	12,035	22,408
Dubuque.....	18,434	22,254

FIRST PRINTER IN AMERICA.

PADUA, ILL.
What was the name of the first printer in America?
J. N. C.

Answer.—It is stated upon what is believed to

be good authority—William S. Patterson—that while the date of the introduction of printing into America is uncertain, yet it is believed that the art was introduced into Mexico by Viceroy de Antonio de Mendoza, probably after his arrival in October, 1535. The same authority states that the first printer was Juan Pablos. It was 1639 when the Cambridge, Mass., press was started.

LEVEL OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
What is the difference in the respective level of the two oceans at the Isthmus of Panama.
INQUIRER.

Answer.—The latest surveys made have discovered no difference of mean level of the two oceans. The tides on the Atlantic side, however, are very much higher than those on the Pacific side.

PORTS OF ENTRY AND DELIVERY.

MILTON, NEB.
What is the meaning of a "port of entry" and a "port of delivery," as each State has so many of each?
JAMES CRAIG.

Answer.—A port of entry is a port or harbor where a custom house is established for the legal entry of goods, merchandise, etc., and every port of entry is a port of delivery.

RAILROAD STATISTICS.

MADISON, NEB.
I see a statement that the number of miles of railroad in Australia is 192,000 miles. Is this correct or not? What is the number of miles there, and what is the number of miles in the United States?
WM. M. ORR.

Answer.—Poor's "Manual" for 1880 gives the number of miles of railroad operated in the United States at 84,233. From the latest and most reliable returns, it appears that Australia has not more than 3,000 miles of railroads, with 600 or 700 more in process of construction. It is only necessary to state that the number of miles of road mentioned by this correspondent is greater than that of all Europe and the United States combined.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

ACKLEY, IOWA.
Please give the statistics of the number of schools and school-teachers in each State and Territory.
ELMER.

Answer.—The called-for figures, perhaps, are in regard to the present statistics of the United States. The last report of the Commissioner of Education is now in the hands of the printer, and its issue will not now be long delayed. The subjoined tables are given, however, and from them the reader can see, from the most recent published reports, the number of schools and school-teachers in the several States and Territories. There are several points to be noted in the tables. In Oregon, Missouri, Texas, and Wisconsin the number of teachers is given without distinction as to sex; in all the others the sex is indicated, except Indian Territory, mentioned in the second table. In the case of New York it should be understood that the figures given are for the number of public school houses, log, frame, brick, and stone. In the report of the State of Mississippi, no statement is made in regard to the number of schools, hence that column in the table is blank—the only blank in the list of States, while Idaho is omitted for the reason that

no recent dates are given. Several other items in the report might be more satisfactory, which, it is hoped the Commissioner of Education will be able to publish in his forthcoming report. The total number of teachers in the States is 269,132, and in the Territories 2,012. It may be added that Kentucky has almost too many ciphers for the statistician, while in Louisiana the figures might be improved. The table of States is as follows:

	Teachers.		No. schools.
	Male.	Female.	
Alabama.....	3,278	1,522	4,796
Arkansas.....	710	165	875
California.....	1,192	2,101	2,578
Colorado.....	226	341	567
Connecticut.....	752	2,329	1,647
Delaware.....	235	278	560
Florida.....	635	335	992
Georgia.....	3,654	1,826	5,361
Illinois.....	9,475	12,817	12,324
Indiana.....	8,039	5,742	8,545
Iowa.....	7,561	13,023	10,694
Kansas.....	2,861	3,498	4,584
Kentucky.....	4,000	2,000	6,456
Louisiana.....	589	1,533	1,541
Maine.....	2,280	4,540	4,215
Maryland.....	1,295	1,776	1,989
Massachusetts.....	1,118	7,390	5,730
Michigan.....	3,916	9,467	6,094
Minnesota.....	1,757	3,115	3,280
Mississippi.....	2,747	2,016	...
Missouri.....	11	268	8,283
Nebraska.....	1,909	2,121	2,690
Nevada.....	45	124	185
New Hampshire.....	600	3,026	2,560
New Jersey.....	993	2,426	1,551
New York.....	7,978	22,589	11,824
North Carolina.....	2,719	1,003	5,149
Ohio.....	11,099	12,292	11,979
Oregon.....	1,068	...	865
Pennsylvania.....	9,319	11,572	18,067
Rhode Island.....	300	1,012	801
South Carolina.....	1,844	1,273	2,922
Tennessee.....	4,057	1,535	5,346
Texas.....	4,330	...	4,633
Vermont.....	720	3,608	2,545
Virginia.....	2,853	1,750	4,545
West Virginia.....	2,822	925	3,510
Wisconsin.....	9,808	...	5,561

The table for the Territories is as follows:

Territories.	Teachers.		No. schools.
	Male.	Female.	
Arizona.....	19	18	28
Dakota.....	141	189	287
Dist. of Columbia.....	31	339	322
Montana.....	57	59	107
New Mexico.....	132	15	138
Utah.....	254	235	346
Washington.....	134	145	262
Wyoming.....	21	27	21
Indian.....	196	...	306

GENERAL STEVENS—ANTIETAM.

OXFORD, Kan.

1. Please inform me what brigade in the Ninth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac General Stevens, who was killed at the battle of Chantilly, commanded, and give a short sketch of his life and services. 2. Also please inform me on what part of the line the last firing was done at the battle of Antietam, and by what troops, whether infantry, cavalry or artillery?

SEWARD E. DAVIS.

Answer.—1. General Isaac Ingalls Stevens, who fell at Chantilly, Va., Sept. 1, 1862, at the head of his command, cheering it on, was a native of Andover, Mass., where he was born March 25, 1818. In 1839 he graduated at West Point, and was first in his class. He entered the engineers, and was made First Lieutenant in 1840. In the Mexican war he was attached to General Scott's staff, and for gallantry at Contreras and Churubusco and at Chapultepec was breveted Captain and Major, and was severely wounded in the

attack of the San Cosine Gate of the capital, and pronounced by his General the most promising officer of his age. From 1849 to 1853 he was principal assistant and in charge of the United States Coast Survey at Washington. President Pierce, on his resigning from the army, appointed him Governor of Washington Territory. General Stevens conducted the pioneer survey of the route for the Northern Pacific Railroad, an account of which he published. After suppressing an Indian war, he resigned and was a Delegate to Congress from 1857 to 1861. He had a rencounter with Chief Justice Lander, and his action was disapproved by the government. After being a member of the conventions that nominated Breckinridge for the Presidency, and supporting that candidate, he strongly urged President Buchanan to dismiss Secretaries Floyd and Thompson when secession was imminent. When the rebellion opened with hostilities he became Colonel of the Seventy-ninth New York Highlanders, and in September, 1861, was made brigadier general of volunteers. In the Port Royal expedition he commanded under General Sherman. In January, 1862, he attacked, and, with the aid of gunboats, carried the rebel batteries on the Coosaw. He commanded the principal column in the unsuccessful attack on Secessionville, S. C., June 16, 1862. General Stevens was later attached to General Pope's command, and had charge of a division in the series of battles fought by Pope in Virginia. He fought gallantly at the second battle of Bull Run. At Chantilly he commanded General Reno's second or left division. 2. Greeley, inferentially, makes the batteries on the left bank of the creek do the last firing on the evening of the bloody battle.

PYTHAGORAS—MOUNT ATHOS.

DAYTONVILLE, Iowa.

1. Who was Pythagoras? Please give sketch of life. 2. Where is the peninsula of Mount Athos? Give description of inhabitants, mode of living, etc. 3. Please describe the glaciers of Folge Pond.

W. L. DOWNING.

Answer.—1. Pythagoras was a Greek philosopher, who was the son of a jeweler of Samos, born about 580 years before Christ. At an early age he traveled, going to Egypt, where it is said he resided twenty-five years. Then it is related he went to Babylon, Judea, and it is even asserted he penetrated to Gaul and India. He established a school in Italy, and effected some reformation in the inhabitants. He was persecuted, however, the friends of a rejected student of powerful family compelling him to withdraw to Metapontum, where he soon after died, probably about the year 500 B. C. 2. Athos is the most eastern of three peninsulas projecting from ancient Chalcidice, in the northwestern part of the Ægean Sea. The mountain is about 6,350 feet high, with a peak of limestone, and the sides flanked by forests of pines, oaks, and chestnuts. Xerxes cut a canal for his ships, when he invaded Greece, across the isthmus that connects the Peninsula of Athos with the main land. In ancient days the peninsula gave sites to several flourishing cities, and in the middle ages there were many monasteries and hermitages upon it.

It is stated that there are at present several thousand monks from Russia, Greece, Bulgaria, and Roumania who find there an asylum, and the more recent reports affirm that no female is permitted to enter the peninsula. 3. Folgefonden Field is an elevated plateau and mountain range of Norway, extending from north to south, and not far from the western coast. The glacier is about 5,000 feet above the level of the sea, and some forty miles long by twenty miles broad, while its depth is estimated at about 600 feet. A stream issuing from its base forms a fine waterfall.

KING KALAKAUA'S COUNTRY—BARON STEUBEN.

1. What comprises the dominion of which Kalakaua is king? 2. Give a brief biographical sketch of Baron Steuben.

B. P. S.

Answer.—1. The Hawaiian, or Sandwich, Islands, comprising an area of about 6,100 square miles, is made up of a dozen islands. 2. Baron Steuben, who became a Major General in the revolutionary army, was born at Madgeburg, Prussia, Nov. 15, 1730, and died at Steubenville, N. Y., Nov. 28, 1794. His father was an officer of Frederick the Great, and he was at 14 years of age a volunteer under his father, at the siege of Prague. He distinguished himself there and at Rossbach, and was wounded at Kunnersdorf. In 1761 he was captured and sent a prisoner to St. Petersburg, but was soon released. The year following he was made Adjutant General on the King's staff. After the siege of Schneidnitz he was rewarded by Frederick. He retired from the army after the Seven-years' War, and traveled with the Prince Hohenzollern Heckeningen, and by him was appointed, in 1764, Grand Marshal and General of his guard, and made a Knight of the Order of "Fidelity." He left these honors and an income of \$3,000 a year—then a large sum—and offered his services to the Americans. Baron Steuben arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., in November, 1777, and joining the army at Valley Forge, was appointed Inspector General, with the rank of Major General, in 1778. In June of that year he was a volunteer in the battle of Monmouth, and performed other important services. In 1780 he commanded in Virginia, and finally in the trenches of Yorktown. It is said that he frequently shared his last dollar with the suffering soldiers, as he often did his clothing and camp equipments. When the war was over the State of New Jersey presented him a small farm, and the Legislature of New York gave him 16,000 acres of wild land in Oneida County, and the government presented him an annuity of \$2,500. Then he built a log cabin at Steubenville, and gave a tenth part of his land to his aides, North, Popham, and Walker, and his servants, and parcelled out the remainder to twenty or thirty tenants.

AUTHOR OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.

CLEVELAND, Ohio.

Who was the true author of the "Book of Mormon?"

Answer.—The "Book of Mormon" is claimed by those who have investigated its author and origin critically to have been written

by Solomon Spalding, who graduated at Dartmouth College in the year 1785. Spalding was a native of Ashford, Conn., and, two years after his graduation from college became a minister, preaching for several years. Then he retired from the pulpit and went into business at Cherry Valley, N. Y., and in 1809 came West and settled in Ohio. Three years later he went to Pittsburg, and thence removed to Amity, Pa., where, after a residence of two years, he died in 1816. He was the author of several novels, for which, however, he found no publisher, and his custom was to read these to his friends in manuscript. While he lived in Ohio he wrote quite a story to show that the Indians were the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel, a view then taken by many in accounting for the origin of the aborigines. This he named "Manuscript Found," and proposed to publish with it, as a preface or advertisement, a fictitious account of its discovery in an Ohio cave; and the work was announced as early as the year 1813. Mrs. Spalding published a statement, some years after her husband's death, declaring that in 1812 he placed the manuscript in a printing office at Pittsburg, with which Sidney Rigdon, then a young man of 19 or 20, was connected; that Rigdon copied the manuscript; and that his possession of a copy was known to all in the printing office, and was frequently mentioned by himself. The original manuscript was returned to Mr. Spalding, and his widow kept it till after the publication of the "Book of Mormon," when she sent it to Conneaut, in Ohio, where she and her husband had lived, and where it was publicly compared with the "Book of Mormon," at a meeting composed in part of persons who remembered Spalding's work. The manuscript came into Smith's hands, and was published through Smith and Rigdon being early associated in the Mormon movement.

EMPEROR OF BRAZIL.

NORTH LAWRENCE, Kan.

Please give me some information in regard to the Emperor and Empress of Brazil.

W. R. SMITH.

Answer.—The present Emperor of Brazil, Pedro II., is descended from the royal line of Portugal. When the French invaded that country in 1807, the royal family fled to Brazil, which was raised to the rank of a kingdom in 1815. After difficulties with Portugal, the father of the reigning sovereign took the part of Brazil, and was proclaimed protector and perpetual defender of that country, which was declared independent in 1822, and he was proclaimed constitutional Emperor and crowned. On the death of his father, Dom Pedro I. abdicated the throne of Brazil in favor of his infant daughter, and returned to Portugal to assume the office of King. It was during the residence of Dom Pedro I. in Brazil, that Dom Pedro II., the present Emperor, was born, which event occurred Dec. 2, 1825. He was crowned July 18, 1841, and was married Sept. 4, 1843, to Princess Theresa Christina Maria, daughter of Francis I. King of the Two Sicilies. Their one surviving child, Princess Isabella, was born July 29 1846, and was mar-

ried in 1864 to Prince Louis of Orleans, Comte d'En, eldest son of the Duc de Nemours, of the ex-royal house of Bourbon-Orleans. The Empire of Brazil has greatly improved under Pedro II., slavery has been abolished, immigration invited, railways built, and the finances and other departments of the government put on a firmer basis. The Emperor traveled in Europe for some time during 1871 and 1872, and not long since visited the United States, where he was very cordially received.

WHO WAS PRESIDENT FROM 1787 TO 1789?

BLANDINVILLE, Ill.

1. Who was President from 1787 (the adoption of the Constitution) to 1789? 2. How many members did it take to constitute Washington's Cabinet? Give their names and the department each held. 3. Which is the longer, the Atlantic Cable or the Pacific Railroad?

A COUNTRY SCHOOL-GIRL.

Answer.—1. It was provided by the Constitutional Convention that the new government should go into operation when nine States had ratified the instrument. Between the time of its adoption, in 1787, and the election of Washington, the executive and legislative powers were vested in Congress. 2. Thomas Jefferson, Edmund Randolph, and Timothy Pickering were Secretaries of State; Alexander Hamilton and Oliver Wolcott were Secretaries of the Treasury; Henry Knox, Timothy Pickering, and James McHenry were Secretaries of War; Samuel Osgood, Timothy Pickering, and Joseph Habersham were Postmasters General; Edmund Randolph, William Bradford, and Charles Lee were Attorneys General. Mr. Pickering held three offices in the Cabinet—Secretary of State, Secretary of War, and Postmaster General, and Mr. Randolph two—Secretary of State and Attorney General. 3. The Central and Union Pacific Railways have a total length from Omaha to San Francisco of 1,914 miles. Probably the longest Atlantic cable is that from Brest to St. Pierre, 2,584 miles. There are other cables, whose average length is in the neighborhood of 2,200 miles. So that it may be said that those cables which connect directly the American and European mainland are in general longer than the great Pacific roads.

THE RETIRED LIST.

ALBION, Iowa.

Please state what the retired list is, what class of men are placed on that list, what salary they receive, and if they can be called into the service of the United States after having been placed upon that list.

NICK.

Answer.—The retired list is for those officers whom arduous, long, or other service may have incapacitated for active duty. The officer to be retired goes before what is known as the Retiring Board, that makes inquiry into and determines the facts touching the nature and occasion of the disability of the officer; this board has such powers of a court-martial and a court of inquiry as may be necessary for that purpose. Certain provisions obtain as to retiring from active service officers who have served so many years. Officers are retired from active service upon the actual rank held by them at the date of retirement. The law provides that only a certain number of officers of the army can be upon the retired list at one time. A retired officer may

be assigned to duty at the Soldiers' Home, and a retired officer shall not be assignable to any other duty; and any retired officer may, on his own application, be detailed to serve as professor in any college. In these latter cases, it will be understood, they are allowed no additional compensation by the government. Officers on the retired list receive 75 per cent of the pay of the rank upon which they are retired.

ORIGIN OF LIFE INSURANCE.

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa.

Who was the originator of life insurance? In what year was it first used? What were the principles of it? Anything like present life insurance? Cos.

Answer.—The rise of life insurance may be traced to several sources. The doctrine of probabilities developed by Pascal and Huggens, as to games of chance, was applied to life contingencies by the great Dutch statesman, Jan DeWitt, in 1671, but it was not till some time after that it was applied to life insurance. In 1698 there was a hint at modern life insurance in a London organization, and this was followed by another association two years after. The operations of these two seem to have passed away without giving to their successors any clear nature of their plan of operations. A third the Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance Office, was founded at London in 1706. It was mutual; that is, each member, without reference to age, paid a fixed admission fee, and a fixed annual payment per share on from one to three shares; at the end of the year a portion of the fund was divided among the heirs of the deceased members in proportion to the shares held by each. There grew up with this the election of members, in after years, then the limitations as to age, occupation, health, and other suggestions which were finally developed by other organizations upon scientific principles.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

CADILLAC, Mich.

1. Please mention some of the general features of Indian Territory. 2. Are any portions of it given to white settlers? 3. Is it healthy? What is the climate? Mrs. MARY E. MOORE.

Answer.—1. The Territory, except a narrow strip in the extreme western part, is attractive and fertile. The Arkansas River, with its great affluents, waters the country from west to east, while the Red River, its southern boundary, affords streams of its own, and these, with their many tributaries, give the Territory a water system quite as extensive and valuable as adjacent States. The general surface of the country is varied; broken between the Red and Canadian Rivers by hills and groups of elevations, while there is a gentle rise from the east toward the west. The greatest development is observed in the eastern part, where the land is rich and fertile, on the upland prairies and woodlands, as well as along the rivers. There is a belt of forest from five to thirty miles in breadth, extending from the Arkansas River to the Brazos. 2. No. 3. The climate is warm and, if anything, inclined to dryness. Along the southeastern part it is more moist, but hot. In the central part it is not so warm, while in the extreme northwestern

portion the weather is by no means so healthful or pleasant. In general, it may be said to have a fine climate. The weather in the Territory is not healthy for white settlers.

GENERAL LEE'S SWORD.

To whom did Robert E. Lee surrender his sword? That is, who took it, and what did General Grant say to him on that occasion?

Answer.—When General Grant met General Lee it was at the house of a farmer named McLean, at Appomattox. That was April 9, 1865. General Grant then wrote a letter containing the stipulations regarding the surrender the leaders had met to decide upon. But General Badeau tells the story as follows: "While Grant was writing, he chanced to look up at Lee, who sat nearly opposite, and at that moment he noticed the glitter of his sword. The sight suggested an alteration in the terms, and he inserted the provisions that officers should be allowed to retain their side-arms, horses, and personal property. Lee had accepted Grant's conditions without this stipulation, and doubtless expected to surrender his sword. But this humiliation he and his gallant officers were spared. When the terms were written out, Grant handed the paper to his great antagonist, who put on his spectacles to read them. He was evidently struck by their general clemency, and especially by the interpolation which saved so much to the feelings of a soldier."

INVENTOR OF STEAMBOATS.

Some claim that Robert Fulton was the first inventor of steamboats. We saw an account in a paper stating that one John Fitch was the inventor. It is claimed that in 1787-8-9 he built several boats and made trips between Philadelphia and Burlington, N. J.

Answer.—John Fitch, the American inventor, lived at a time when activity prevailed among those who were experimenting in the line of steam-navigation. He had an experimental steamer on the Delaware in 1786, and his propelling instruments were paddles suspended by the upper ends of their shafts and moved by a series of cranks; this boat was sixty feet long. Another vessel, in 1790, made a number of trips on the Delaware, reaching an average speed of seven and a half miles. But it may be stated that the earliest application of steam to turn the paddle-wheel was anticipated by Roger Bacon, while Jonathan Hulls patented, Dec. 31, 1736, a marine steam engine, proposing to employ his vessel in towing. It is no doubt the fact that each inventor was assisted in his labors by the experiments of his predecessors, and in that way we have the improved steam craft which now float.

SOME VICE PRESIDENTS.

History informs us that when J. Q. Adams had to be elected by the House of Representatives there were electoral votes enough to elect a Vice President, and when Van Buren was elected by the electors those same electors failed to elect a Vice President. The question is: How did this happen? Were the same Vice President's on two tickets in 1824 and tickets divided as to Vice President in 1836, or did the electors "go back" on their constituents?

Answer.—We quote from Ridpath on both these queries. And, in the first place in regard to Adams and Calhoun: "Neither candidates re-

ceived a majority of the electoral votes, and for the second time in the history of the government the choice of President was referred to the House of Representatives. By that body Mr. Adams was duly elected. For Vice President, John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, had been chosen by the electoral college." Again the same historian writes in regard to the race between Van Buren and his opponents: "Already, in the autumn of the previous year, Martin Van Buren had been elected President. As to the Vice Presidency, no one secured a majority in the electoral college, and the choice devolved on the Senate. By that body Colonel Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, was duly elected."

THE FIRST SLAVES.

1. Where were the first slaves owned in the United States, and in what year? 2. Who originated, wrote, and enforced the emancipation proclamation? 3. To what power does Norway and Sweden belong? What are the names of the present rulers? A READER.

Answer.—1. Bancroft has the following in regard to the introduction of slaves into what is now United States territory: "In the month of August, 1619, a Dutch man-of-war entered James River and landed twenty negroes for sale. This, indeed, was a sad introduction of negro slavery in the English colonies." The most of the authorities make the date December, 1620. 2. President Abraham Lincoln. 3. They form the Kingdom of Sweden and Norway. The King is Oscar II, born Jan. 21, 1829, third son of King Oscar I, and the Queen is Sophia, born July 9, 1836, daughter of Duke Wilhelm, of Nassau.

THE BLARNEY STONE.

What is the origin of the phrase "Kissing the Blarney Stone?" HUDSON, N. Y.
WILLIE STANTON.

Answer.—Blarney is a village in Ireland, in the County of Cork, about five miles from the famous city of that name. It is chiefly celebrated as giving the name to a peculiar kind of eloquence which is said to be characteristic of the light-hearted natives of the Emerald Isle. The old castle at Blarney contains the identical stone, the kissing of which is believed to give the person peculiar skill in speech. It is one of those superstitions which can be traced back until the mind of man runneth not to the contrary.

RHODE ISLAND—PRICE OF SLAVES.

1. How many counties has Rhode Island, and how many Congressional districts? 2. What was the price of slaves when first brought to Virginia? TUSCOLA, ILL.
HARRY G. RUSSELL.

Answer.—1. Rhode Island has five counties, Bristol, Kent, Newport, Providence, and Washington. The State has two Representatives in Congress. 2. Bancroft, in an interesting chapter on slavery, states that in 1672 the average price in the colonies for negroes was from £20 to £25. There are no records quoted by which we are informed of the price of negroes at Jamestown in 1620.

MAPLE SUGAR.

Is maple sugar made from the crude or elaborated sap of the tree? CLINTON, WIS.
STEVEN ARTHUR.

Answer.—The process of making maple sugar

is often very crude, and consists of merely collecting the sap and boiling it down in kettles over an open fire; when sufficiently concentrated, the sirup is poured into molds to granulate. In recent years there have been much time and attention given to its manufacture into sugar, and houses have been built expressly for the purpose, and have been furnished with improved evaporators and other apparatus to facilitate the operation.

THE PRESIDENT ADJOURNING CONGRESS.

MONTICELLO, Iowa.
Has the President of the United States the power to adjourn Congress on any occasion, and, if so, for how long?
T. V. YOUNG.

Answer.—Article III, Section 3, of the Constitution of the United States, is as follows: "He (the President) shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them, and, in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper."

THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE.

MANCHESTER, Iowa.
Please give a description of the battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., giving the dates, numbers engaged, on both sides, etc.
JOHN RIGBY.

Answer.—General Herron "locked horns," as Greeley puts it, with Hindman on Illinois Creek, near a settlement called Prairie Grove. The former had about 4,000 men in hand. He drove the rebel cavalry impetuously across the creek, only to find their infantry and artillery strongly posted on a high wooded ridge, about three-quarters of a mile distant. The timber and dense undergrowth concealed the number of the enemy. He sent a light battery across, but this was driven back. Then threatening a fresh advance in the road, he cut a path to the creek, half a mile further down, and pushed across a battery at a point which enabled it to draw the fire of the secessionists' artillery. This movement was a success, and before the rebels recovered from their surprise and confusion, General Herron had thrown three full batteries, backed by three regiments of infantry, across the regular ford. These batteries were so finely served that in an hour they had silenced the secessionists. The Unionists were then advanced across an open field, firing volleys of grape and canister until within a hundred yards of the ridge held by the rebels, and then the Twentieth Wisconsin and Nineteenth Iowa Infantry were ordered to charge the rebel battery in their front. They took the latter, but were unable to hold it, and compelled to fall back. The rebels, in their turn, charged the three Union batteries, but were repulsed with great slaughter. Again the rebel battery was taken, this time by Colonel Houston and the Thirty-seventh Illinois and Twenty-sixth Indiana Infantry, and again the captors were obliged to relinquish it. This was the condition of the Union and secession forces at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon, when General Herron

heard the welcome music of a battery opening at some distance on his right. This was General Blunt, who came up with his force in front of the enemy's left, where they had been massing for the purpose of flanking General Herron's position. The flankers found an enemy much closer to them than they anticipated, and General Blunt's brigade became an object of attention. The three batteries of the latter, firing shell and case-shot at short range, drove the two opposing rebel batteries back into the woods, where they were charged by Colonel Weer, leading the Tenth, Thirteenth, and part of the Second and Eleventh Kansas, and Twentieth Iowa, and a musketry fight of three hours was maintained with energy by both sides. The Union batteries had, meanwhile, been advanced and admirably served. Lieutenant Tenney, with six ten-pound Parrotts, repelled a formidable infantry attack, and at that point the rebel General Stein, of Missouri, fell. A battery of ten guns, well supported, opened on Lieutenant Tenney, but was silenced, and two of the guns dismounted in ten minutes. An attempt was made to capture Rabb's and Hopkins' batteries, which were supported by the Eleventh Kansas, Lieutenant Colonel Moonlight, but the assailants were defeated with fearful losses. The night came over the scene, the rebels recoiling into their timbered shelter, while the Union boys slept on their arms in the open field. Just before daylight General Blunt received a flag of truce from Hindman in regard to burying the dead and relieving the wounded. General Blunt met Hindman, but was satisfied the bulk of the latter's army had begun to retreat several hours previous. The Union loss was reported at 167 killed, 798 wounded, 183 missing; total, 1,148. Hindman's official report makes the rebel loss 164 killed, 817 wounded, 336 missing; total, 1,317. General Herron wrote, under date of Dec. 16, that the number of the enemy was about 25,000, and General Blunt, in his official report, said the rebel "loss in killed and wounded cannot fall short of 3,000, and will probably much exceed that number, as many of them not severely wounded were taken to Van Buren. Their loss in killed upon the ground will reach 1,000, the greater number of whom have been buried by my command." This was Dec. 7, 1862.

SAN DOMINGO ANNEXATION—BERNADOTTE.

CANTON, Ill.
1. What were the objections to the annexation of San Domingo? 2. When Napoleon I. was overthrown, did Bernadotte share the general overthrow of his many subordinate princes?
J. N. BURSON.

Answer.—1. Some of the circumstances attending the San Domingo case which have been forgotten may now be recalled with profit. Soon after General Grant's inauguration the first time he was waited upon by an agent of President Baez, with a proposition to annex the republic to the United States. Later, another gentleman from San Domingo, made similar representations, namely, in regard to the capacity of the island, the desire of the people, their character and habits: that they were weak in num-

bers and poor in purse, and were not, alone, capable of developing their great resources; that they had no incentive to industry, because they lacked protection for their accumulations; and that, if not accepted by the United States, it was feared they would have to seek protection elsewhere. General Grant made no reply to these statements, and gave no indication of what he thought of the proposition. He afterwards took measures to ascertain the exact wish of the government and inhabitants of San Domingo in regard to annexation, and to communicate the information to the people of the United States. In regard to the remainder of the proceedings as to the treaty, General Grant's own words, in a message to Congress April 5, 1871, transmitting the report of the Commissioners appointed to visit San Domingo, will be of interest: "As soon as it became publicly known that such a treaty (for the acquisition of San Domingo) had been negotiated, the attention of the country was occupied with allegations calculated to prejudice the merits of the case, and with aspersions upon those whose duty had connected them with it. Amid the public excitement thus created, the treaty failed to receive the requisite two-thirds vote of the Senate, and was rejected; but whether the action of that body was based wholly upon the merits of the treaty, or might not have been, in some degree, influenced by such unfounded allegations, could not be known by the people, because the debates of the Senate in secret session are not published." Then, under authority of Congress, a commission was appointed to visit the island and report upon the facts. It was General Grant's suggestion that no action was taken at that session of Congress beyond the printing and general dissemination of the report of the commission. It was held by those who opposed annexation that the people of San Domingo were not in favor of the plan, and that there were "unusual" means resorted to in order to secure the vote of the Dominican people for annexation. There were many brevet patriots, such as Carl Schurz, who opposed annexation, but they were never able to prove their charges, because they were on the wrong side of the facts. 2. Bernadotte was a man whom Napoleon could not use, and early created for himself a reputation for independence, moderation, and administrative ability. When, therefore, Napoleon fell Bernadotte was the heir-presumptive of the Swedish throne, and, with the allies, fought the French in several important battles. In 1818, on the death of Charles XIII., he was acknowledged King both of Sweden and Norway, under the name of Charles XIV. He reigned twenty years, and was succeeded by Oscar I., father of Oscar II., the present king.

FOREIGN MINISTERS.

VALPARAISO, Ind.

Please answer the following: To how many foreign countries have we Ministers? What are their salaries?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The following is a list of the countries in which the Government of the United

States has sent representatives as Ministers, and their salaries:

Argentine Republic—Minister Resident, \$7,000.

Austria-Hungary—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Belgium—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Bolivia—Minister Resident and Consul General, \$5,000.

Brazil—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Central American States—Minister Resident, \$10,000.

Chili—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$10,000.

China—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Columbia, United States of—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Denmark—Charge d'Affaires, \$5,000.

France—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$17,500.

Germany—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$17,500.

Great Britain—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$17,500.

Hawaiian Islands—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Italy—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Japan—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Liberia—Minister Resident and Consul General, \$4,000.

Mexico—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Netherlands—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Paraguay and Uruguay—Charge d'Affaires, \$5,000.

Peru—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$10,000.

Portugal—Charge d'Affaires, \$5,000.

Russia—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$17,500.

Spain—Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary, \$12,000.

Sweden and Norway—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Switzerland—Charge d'Affaires, \$5,000.

Turkey—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

Venezuela—Minister Resident, \$7,500.

THE GREEK CHURCH AND RUSSIA.

LINCOLN, Cass Co., Ind.

1. What is the faith and polity of the Greek or Russian Church? How does it differ from Catholicism? 2. What language do the Russians speak? 3. And what is the difference between Czar and an Emperor? A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. The Greek Church holds in common with the Roman Catholic Church, the doctrines of the seven sacraments, of the sacrifice of the mass, of the veneration of the Virgin Mary, the saints, images, and relics, of the meritoriousness of fasting and other works, the hierarchical degrees of ecclesiastical orders, and monasticism. It disowns the authority of the Pope, and, in controversies of faith, acknowledges the infallibility of the ecumenical councils. At Constantinople baptism by immersion only is admitted as valid; but the Russian

Church hold baptism by immersion as a matter of rite, not of dogma. The Greek Church administers the Lord's Supper in both kinds, and gives confirmation and communion to children immediately after they are baptized. It prays for the dead, but denies there is a purgatory; it maintains that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father, as principal, through the Son, as medium; it admits of no images in relief or embossed work, but uses paintings and engravings in copper and silver; it approves of the marriage of priests, provided they attain that state before they are admitted into holy orders; and it condemns second marriages of priests, and fourth marriages of laymen; and it keeps four fasts in the year more solemnly than the rest.

2. The population of Russia is very various, comprising about 100 different nationalities, and some forty different languages are spoken in the empire. 3. The Czar, sometimes written Tzar, the title of the sovereign of Russia, means king or lord. Some have supposed it to be a corruption of the Latin Caesar in the sense of the German Kaiser, but the ancient Slavonic translation of the Bible has Tzar for king. Czar is also the ancient title of the princes of Grusia, or Georgia, and Imereth, which are now Russian provinces. The title emperor was assumed by Peter the Great.

THE IRISH PATRIOT, EMMET.

Waucoma, Iowa.
Please give me a brief account of the life of Robert Emmet. F. B. Dodd.

Answer.—This brilliant young revolutionist was a native of Dublin, where he was born in 1780, and he was executed there Sept. 20, 1803. At Trinity College he gained high honors, but was subsequently expelled because he had avowed himself a republican in principle. Young Emmet became a member of the Association of United Irishmen, and labored with them to secure the separation of Ireland from Great Britain, and to establish an independent government for his native land. Although but a stripling, he was concerned in the attempt of the men in '98, after the failure of whose effort he escaped to France, and returned secretly to Dublin in 1802, when he aided largely in reorganizing the revolutionists, establishing depots of fire arms and powder in various parts of the city. It was decided that July 3, 1803, should be the day when an attempt would be made to seize Dublin Castle and Arsenal. The revolutionists were supplied with pikes, and he addressed them on the evening of that day. The crowds were great, and filled the principal street, where Chief Justice Kilwarden, who was passing in his carriage, was killed. But the insurgents hesitated to follow their leader to the Castle, and dispersed finally when fired upon by a party of soldiers. Emmet escaped to the Wicklow Mountains, and might have evaded pursuit, but an attachment for Miss Curran, daughter of the great barrister, induced him to return to Dublin to bid her farewell before leaving Ireland. He was discovered and arrested, tried, and convicted of high treason.

He defended himself, and delivered an address to the judge and jury which is remarkable for its eloquence and pathos. He met his death without flinching.

SERFDOM IN RUSSIA.

VILLISCA, Iowa.
Please give a history of the origin of serfdom in Russia, the condition of the serfs as such, their number when liberated, etc. W. H. R.

Answer.—In Russia, serfdom was not known until about the end of the sixteenth century, though chattel slavery had long existed in that country. In the earlier history of Russia the despotism of the princes resulted in an insurrectionary spirit among the people. The princes gathered about them body guards to maintain their power, and rewarded these guards with large territorial possessions. The peasants worked on these estates, with entire freedom to go from one to another, until the close of the sixteenth century, when they were "fastened," as the phrase ran, to the soil—that is, they were no longer allowed to move from the places where the ukase found them; the object of this being to enrich the revenues of the crown rather than to make the landlords grow richer themselves. When the peasants wandered about they were a large class that constantly avoided all payment of taxes, or contributing revenues to the government. Serfdom was introduced by Boris Godunoff, the Czar, who was born in 1552, and died in 1605. When the serfs were emancipated, every one of them was endowed, according to the fertility of the land, with from five to twenty-five acres, with a house, and certain improvements upon it, for which he is bound to pay, during a stated number of years, a certain tax to the government; hence there is now no agricultural laborer who is not a small land-owner and a householder. There were about 23,000,000 emancipated.

GAME LAW AND TAXIDERMISTS.

HANOVER, Jo Daviess Co., Ill.
Will you please give a synopsis of the game law of Illinois, more especially that part which alludes to taxidermists procuring specimens for preservation.

AMATEUR TAXIDERMIST.

Answer.—The section referred to is as follows: "No person or persons shall sell or expose for sale, or have in his or their possession, for the purpose of selling or exposing for sale, any of the animals, wild fowl or birds, mentioned in section one of this act, after the expiration of five days next succeeding the first day of the period in which it shall be unlawful to kill, trap, or ensnare such animals, wild fowls, or birds. * * * Provided, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to the killing of birds by or for the use of taxidermists, for preservation either in public or private collections, if so preserved." The first section referred to is as follows: "That it shall be unlawful for any person, or persons to hunt or pursue, kill or trap, net or ensnare, or otherwise destroy any wild duck, doe, or fawn, or wild turkey, between the 15th day of January and the 1st day of September of each year, or any pinnated grouse or prairie chickens between the 1st day of December and the 15th day of August of the succeeding year.

or any quail or ruffed grouse between the 1st day of January and the 1st day of October of each and every year, or any wild goose, duck, brandt, or other water fowl between the 1st day of May and the 15th day of August of each and every year."

LOUISIANA—FLORIDA'S CESSIONS.

RENSSELAER, Ind.

1. What is to be the capital of Louisiana after 1880?
2. Give the particulars of the purchase of Florida.

J. G.

Answer.—1. The capital of Louisiana is, according to the Librarian of Congress, the city of New Orleans. 2. In the year 1763 the whole province of what was then known as Florida was ceded to Great Britain in exchange for Cuba, which the English had taken not long before. Soon after this the British divided the territory into two provinces, making the river Apalachicola the boundary line between them. By the treaty of 1783, Florida was retroceded to Spain, and the greater part of the inhabitants deserted the country and settled in the United States. When Louisiana was ceded to the United States by France, in 1803, it was declared to be ceded with the same extent that it had in the hands of Spain to France. The terms of this cession gave rise to a claim on the part of the United States to the country west of the Perdido River, and to prevent the occupation of this territory the government took possession in 1811 of the principal posts. In 1819 Spain ceded the whole province to the United States, and possession was given to the Americans in July, 1821.

MOUNT VESUVIUS—LISBON'S EARTHQUAKE.

WILLOW CREEK, Neb.

1. When was the first known eruption of Mount Vesuvius, in Italy?
2. When was Lisbon destroyed by an earthquake, and how much of the surface was disturbed?

J. W. DAVIS.

Answer.—1. The first recorded eruption occurred in the year '79 of this era, and this is described as having been fearful in violence, engulfing Pompeii and Herculaneum. 2. The great earthquake occurred Nov. 1, 1755, which, says Holmes:

Was the year that Lisbon town
Saw the earth open and gulp her down.

On the morning of the earthquake, the rumbling that precedes such catastrophes was immediately followed by the great shock, which threw down the principal part of the city. The sea retired, leaving the bar dry, and returned in a minute as a great wave or breaker fifty feet or more in height. It is variously stated that from 40,000 to 60,000 persons perished in Lisbon in the space of five or six minutes. The greater part of the city was destroyed, and the new city of to-day is built upon a part of what was desolated. It is difficult to state accurately how much of this surface was disturbed, as the extent of that part of the city which was engulfed is not definitely known.

ROBERT RANTOUL.

OSKALOOSA, Iowa.

Please give a short sketch of Robert Rantoul.

J. W. WITHEAM.

Answer.—Robert Rantoul was a native of Beverly, Mass., where he was born May 13, 1805. At the age of 21 he graduated at Harvard, and entered the legal profession, residing at South

Reading, Gloucester, and Boston. He was a member of the State Legislature from 1834 to 1837, and was distinguished for his efforts to secure the abolition of capital punishment. He was also a member in 1837 of the Massachusetts Board of Education, in which capacity he rendered important services. From 1843 to 1845 he was Collector of the port of Boston, the latter year being appointed United States District Attorney. He also filled a part of the unexpired term of Daniel Webster in the United States Senate in 1851, in which year he was elected to Congress as a Free-soil Democrat. He died at Washington, D. C., Aug. 7, 1852. Mr. Rantoul was a radical reformer, and exerted himself in behalf of questions affecting the condition of the masses of the people and for the oppressed. He was conspicuous for his earnest resistance to the fugitive slave law, and his report on the subject of capital punishment is still one of the authorities quoted by those who are laboring along that line.

LORD BEACONSFIELD.

JUSTUS, Stark Co., Ohio.

1. Was Lord Beaconsfield a Jew? Give a full statement of his being admitted into England.
2. How can it be that we had a telegram in this country giving a statement of his (Lord Beaconsfield's) death before he was dead?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. The Disraeli family can be traced back for several centuries. They were Jews, and were driven from Spain by the inquisition about the end of the fifteenth century, and settled as merchants at Venice. The grandfather of Lord Beaconsfield removed to England in 1748, and there amassed a fortune, and retired from business. He and his family gradually dropped connection with their coreligionists, and Isaac Disraeli, father of Lord Beaconsfield, never appears to have associated himself with those of his race. 2. When the difference in time between London and Chicago is taken into account, it will not be a matter of surprise that in Illinois we had news of the event "before it occurred."

JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

DELAVER, Ill.

Would like some facts about the writer, Justin McCarthy.

READER.

Answer.—Justin McCarthy was born at Cork, Ireland, Nov. 22, 1830, and after receiving a liberal education connected himself with a Liverpool journal in 1853, and in 1860 was the Parliamentary reporter of a London newspaper, and its chief editor from 1864 to 1868. Then Mr. McCarthy visited the United States, traveling and lecturing for the most of three years, and became connected with a New York weekly religious journal. He was also during this time, and since, a frequent contributor to the leading magazines. His visit to this country ended, Mr. McCarthy went back to Great Britain and again became a writer for the daily press. While in America he visited thirty-five different States. He is the author of several novels and a volume or two of critical essays. Mr. McCarthy has been a member of Parliament for several years.

NEWSPAPERS AND THE DEAD-LETTER OFFICE.

AURELIA, Iowa.

Are newspapers ever sent to the Dead Letter office?

What is done with papers that have no address, or that the parties addressed refused to take from the office?
INQUIRY.

Answer.—Nothing but first-class matter is sent to the Dead Letter Office. When newspapers do not have an address, they remain in the office in which they are mailed, or if it is known that they came from a publisher or publishing company, then they are returned properly marked to that publisher or publishing company. When a paper is sent by a publisher or publishing company to a person, and refused at the office of delivery, it is so marked, either by stamp or in writing, and returned to the office from which it was sent, and by the latter returned to the publisher or publishing company sending it.

THE BARBER'S POLE.

GLYNDON, Crawford Co., Pa.
Will you favor me by replying to the following question: Why is the barber's pole so painted?
H. G. SNAPP.

Answer.—In former times the barber served his customers in the capacity of surgeon, and, when the operation of bleeding was extensively practiced, he was in the habit of performing in that line. The spiral red stripe so frequently seen on the barber's pole is said to symbolize the winding of a ribbon or bandage round the arm when the blood-letting operation was resorted to.

MRS. HOLMES, THE NOVELIST.

CLAY CENTER, Neb.
To settle a dispute, please answer the following questions: 1. What was the name of the first book written by Mrs. Holmes? 2. What was her maiden name?
A. M. PERRY.

Answer.—1. Allibone states that Mrs. Holmes first book was "Tempest and Sunshine," published in 1844. 2. Mrs. Holmes was the niece of Dr. Joel Hawes, and her maiden name was Hawes.

THE EARTH'S MOTIONS.

HUNTLEY, Ill.
Please answer the following questions: 1. Has the earth more than two motions? If so, explain them. 2. Is the earth's orbit an ellipse? If so, at what time or times is it nearest to the sun?
J. P. SKEELS.

Answer.—1. The earth has two constant motions, the daily and the annual. 2. The earth moves round the sun in a nearly circular path. The perihelion of the orbit lies near the place of the winter solstice, so that, in fact, about ten days after midwinter of the northern hemisphere the earth is at her nearest to the sun.

UNITED STATES RAILROADS.

LA PORTE, Ind.
Please give a resume of the development of railroads in the United States. When and where was the first railroad built in the United States? What was the length, cost, and who was the engineer? When was the first railroad finished to the Pacific coast?
RAPID TRANSIT.

Answer.—It is now fifty-six years since the first railroad constructed in America was projected. The time was 1825, the engineer Gridley Bryant, and the successful projectors were that gentleman and Colonel T. H. Perkins, whose name is associated with this and other enterprises which have since grown to mammoth proportions. This pioneer road was designed to transport granite from the Quincy, Mass., quarries to the nearest tide-water; it was, therefore, short, being only about four miles long, including branches, and the first cost was \$50,000.

The second American road was laid out in the month of January two years after, and opened the following May. It was from Mauch Chunk, Pa., to the Lehigh River, and with the branches, etc., was thirteen miles in length. Both these roads had a five-foot gauge. In the same year that the second road named was laid out the Maryland Legislature granted a charter, modeled on the old turnpike charters, to the first railroad company authorized to carry on the general business of transportation; the capital stock was \$500,000, and the company had permission to increase this. The venerable Peter Cooper built the first engine used, and it was run on the beginnings of the present great Baltimore and Ohio. This engine weighed about a ton, and drew an open car, with the directors of the road and some few friends, eighteen miles, from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills, in an hour; this was the first locomotive for railroad purposes ever built in America, and the first one used for carrying passengers on this continent. The era of individual enterprise in railroad construction was most active, and it was not until some time after that the great land grants were made by Congress. Then lines which were single met and consolidated, and formed continuous routes between important points, finally taking in public carriers of various kinds, such as steamboats—river, lake, and ocean—canal craft, etc., and these multiplied themselves into what are to be seen at the present time. The war years greatly retarded the rapid growth of railroads, the years 1861-2-3 and 4 being comparatively barren of great enterprises, only about 3,200 miles of new road being laid during the slavery strife period. The era of the greatest activity was from 1865 to 1880, during which time five-eighths of the entire number of miles of road now in operation were constructed. Of the 93,659 miles reported in 1880 as in operation in North America, the United States contained 86,497 miles. The year 1871 alone gave an increase of 7,379 in the mileage, and 1872 a further increase of 6,070 miles. The following table shows the number of miles in operation at intervals of five years from 1830 to 1879:

Year.	Miles in operation.	Year.	Miles in operation.
1830.....	23	1860.....	30,635
1835.....	1,098	1865.....	35,085
1840.....	2,818	1870.....	52,914
1845.....	4,633	1875.....	74,096
1850.....	9,021	1879.....	86,497
1855.....	18,374		

The Central and Union Pacific Railway was completed May 10, 1869.

THE FIVE POINTS OF CALVINISM.

RANDOLPH, Ill.
Please give in a condensed form what are the five points of Calvinism.
N. W. BRANDICAN.

Answer.—It is, exceedingly difficult to give in as brief space as we have even the bare outlines of a system of theology such as this inquired for. We will give the historic "five points," and explain briefly what each implies: 1. Predestination—As all men have sinned in Adam, and have become exposed to the curse and eternal death, God would have done no injustice to any one if He had determined to leave the whole hu-

man race under sin and its curse, and to condemn them on account of sin. (Romans iii., 19, 23, and vi., 23.) That some, in time, have faith given them by God, and others do not have it given, proceeds from His eternal decree. (Acts, xv., 18, and Ephesians, i., 11.) This gives some idea of the view on this subject, the other passages and reasoning being left to the reader. 2. The Death of Christ—We pass over what is said of the necessity of atonement in order to pardon, and of Christ having offered that atonement and satisfaction. The death of Christ, the Son of God, is a single and most perfect sacrifice and satisfaction for sins, of infinite value and price, abundantly sufficient to expiate the sins of the whole world; but because many who are called by the gospel and do not repent nor believe in Christ, this does not arise from defect or insufficiency of the sacrifice offered by Christ, but from their own fault. 3. Man's corruption—All men are conceived in sin and born the children of wrath, indisposed to all saving good, dead in and the slaves of sin, and, without the regenerating grace of the Holy Spirit, are neither willing nor able to return to God, to correct their depraved nature, or to dispose themselves to the correction of it. 4. Grace and free will—But, in like manner as by the fall, man does not cease to be man endowed with intellect and will, neither has sin, which has pervaded the whole human race, taken away the nature of the human species, but it has depraved and spiritually stained it; so that even this divine grace of regeneration does not act upon men like stock and trees, nor take away the properties of his will, or violently compel it while unwilling; but it spiritually quickens, heals, corrects, and sweetly, and at the same time powerfully, inclines it; so that whereas before it was wholly governed by the rebellion and resistance of the flesh, now prompt and sincere obedience of the Spirit may begin to reign; in which manner, unless the admirable Author of all good should work in man, there could be no hope to man of rising from the fall to that free-will by which, when standing, he fell into ruin. 5. Perseverance—God, who is rich in mercy, from His immutable purpose of election, does not wholly take away His Holy Spirit from His own, even in lamentable falls, nor does He so permit them to glide down that they may fall from the grace of adoption and the state of justification, or commit the 'sin unto death' or against the Holy Spirit, that, being deserted by Him, they should cast themselves headlong into eternal destruction. So that not by their own merits or strength, but by the gratuitous mercy of God, they obtain it, that they neither totally fall from faith and grace, nor finally continue in their falls and perish. These are the famous "five points," as fully as space will permit us to give them.

COLLECTOR SIMMONS, OF BOSTON.

PAWNEE CITY, Neb.

Please give the particulars in the case of the removal of Simmons, the official at Boston, that the "feather-heads" are talking so much about.

W. B.

Answer.—It is an unfortunate "parallel case" or those who have recalled it. The facts are

these: Collector Simmons was appointed when Charles Sumner and George S. Boutwell were the United States Senators from Massachusetts. Senator Sumner from the beginning of General Grant's administration was hostile to it. Sumner within a few months was everywhere recognized as not being in accord with General Grant's administration, and was practically read out of the Republican party by his colleagues in the Senate. Senator Boutwell retained the respect of the Senate, and his position in the Senate and the Republican party was such as gave him recognition as a sterling Republican. He, then in accord with his colleagues and party, was the only Senator whom the President was bound to recognize on the ground of Senatorial courtesy. When the name of Simmons was presented, General Grant took care to learn Senator Boutwell's views and his attitude, which, says General Grant, was this: He was neither for nor against Simmons. A large number of petitions for and protests against Simmons were received at Washington from Boston, and these were referred to Senator Boutwell, but he expressed no wish in regard to them. The House of Representatives was divided into two factions. Mr. Hooper, a well-known Congressman, belonged to one of these, and represented the district in which the Custom House involved was situated; and he was earnest in his efforts to have Simmons appointed. General Butler, then a recognized leader in the Republican party, also from Massachusetts, favored Simmons. So General Grant appointed him. General Grant says now that Collector Simmons made an exceptionally good officer. But time wore on, and General Grant's administration closed. Then the two members of Congress (Hoar and Dawes) who now represent Massachusetts in the Senate were determined that Simmons should be removed. When this was going on many petitions from representative men in every class of Boston society were received at Washington to have Simmons retained. But Messrs. Hoar and Dawes, when they became Senators, insisted that Senatorial courtesy should be shown by President Hayes' administration, and demanded that a change be made in the Collectorship of Boston, and Simmons was removed. These are the facts in the noted "parallel case" which has been cited by those who oppose Senator Conkling, and who sneer at "Senatorial courtesy" when its application does not suit them.

THE SUN "HE," THE MOON "SHE."

JESUS, Stark Co., Ohio.

1. Why is the sun called "he" and the moon called "she"? 2. By whom, and in what year, was the first cast-iron plow manufactured?

D. A. FISHER.

Answer.—1. Luna or Selene was a goddess worshipped by the Greeks and Romans. In Greek mythology she is variously said to be the daughter of Hyperion and Theia, and sister of Helios (the sun), and Eos (the morning); the daughter of Helios, the source of light; and the mother, by Helios, of the four Seasons. Other authorities ascribe a different parentage. It was said that Luna bore to Jupiter Hersa (the dew);

and some of the authorities suggest, in explanation of this last legend, that the moon was naturally, though incorrectly, regarded as the cause of dew: and nothing, therefore, was more obvious than to say that the dew was the progeny of the sky personified after the usual manner of the Greeks. Selene was, it was said, enamored of Endymion, on whom Jupiter had bestowed the boon of perpetual youth, but united with it perpetual sleep, and that Selene used to descend to him in the evening, on the summit of Mount Latmus, where he reposed, and the eclipses were attributed to these visits. In Greek mythology, Apollo and Helios are generally regarded as the same. He was the son of Jupiter and Latona, and was born in Delos, an uninhabited rock in the Ægean Sea. His mother was persecuted by Juno, the queen of heaven, and besought all the islands in the Ægean to afford her a place of rest, but they all feared Juno, whose wrath was kindled against her rival. Delos was the only one that consented to become the birthplace of the god, provided Latona would pledge herself that he would not condemn her lonely isle. On Delos Apollo sprang to light. Earth smiled around, and all the goddesses shouted aloud to celebrate his birth. Then Delos, exulting with joy, became covered with flowers. In other words, the ancients place these two among the cosmogonical personifications, and they remain even to this day. 2. In the year 1797 a cast-iron plow was patented by Charles Newbold, of Burlington, N. J.

LOLA MONTEZ.

CARTHAGE, MO.

Please give a short sketch of Lola Montez.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Lola Montez was born in 1824, and died in Astoria, N. Y., June 30, 1861. There is much uncertainty as to the place of her birth, some claiming that she was born at Montrose, Scotland, and others at Limerick, Ireland. Her mother was a creole, whose several affinities were natives of Spain and Great Britain. Lola Montez received a good education in England, and was at an early age married to an officer named Captain James, and with him she went to India, but in a few years left him and appeared at Paris, where she led for a time quite an adventurous life. Louis I., of Bavaria, was captivated by her beauty and accomplishments in 1846 at Munich, where she was a ballet dancer, and soon her influence became so great that administrations were dismissed and state affairs changed to suit her caprice. Such was the national feeling that even the students of the university took sides, and troubles were created before the revolution of '48, so that, at his favorite's suggestion, Louis closed the university. This was succeeded by a more serious uprising, and Louis was compelled to reopen that institution, and the adventuress was obliged to flee. Then Lola contracted marriage with another English officer, named Heald, although never released legally from her marriage with James. She was prosecuted for bigamy, and then, with her new companion, went to Madrid. But her fickle

spirit again manifested itself, and he was numbered among the deserted. Heald and James soon after this died. Lola in 1852 gave performances in New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco, and in California married a man named Hull, and he, too, was soon alone again. In 1855 she appeared at Melbourne, in Australia, and lectured in England and the United States. In 1859 she arrived once more in the United States, and it is said reformed her life. She died in poverty, in a sanitary asylum.

RULERS' SALARIES—THE COSSACKS.

WARSAW, MO.

1. What are the salaries of the Spiss and Mexican Presidents? 2. Who are the Cossacks, and why are they always loyal to the Russian Government?

PETER S. C. WILLS.

Answer.—1. The President of the Swiss Republic has a salary of £600 per annum. The President of Mexico has a salary of \$30,000 a year. 2. The Cossacks have by no means been "always loyal to the Russian Government," but, in fact, for centuries were among the most difficult of the subjects of the Czar to manage. Some of their insurrections against the government shook the empire to its very foundations, notably that in the reign of Catharine II. Since that great revolt the Russian Government's object has been to gradually deprive them of their independence by transforming their bodies into more regular military organizations. The dignity of Chief Attaman is now vested in the Crown Prince of Russia. The Cossacks have their principal province in the vast steppes west of the Don. Their origin is somewhat involved in obscurity. Their property consists largely of horses, and in times of peace their occupations are fishing and raising cattle, agriculture, commerce, and the industries being little developed.

PENDULUMS.

WARREN, Ill.

1. What constitutes a pendulum? 2. Is the rod a part of the pendulum? 3. Where is the center of oscillation, and how is it found?

F. B. HANNA.

Answer.—1. Webster defines it: "A body so suspended from a fixed point as to swing freely to and fro by the alternate action of gravity and momentum." 2. In an article on pendulums, J. E. Hilgard describes a material or compound pendulum, consisting, for instance, he says, "of a rod with a disk or ball attached to its lower extremity." 3. The same authority says: "In order to investigate the laws of the motion of a pendulum, we subtract from its material qualities, and consider a heavy point suspended by a right line without weight from a fixed point, about which it is free to move; this is called a simple pendulum." And again: "When instead of a simple pendulum we have a material or compound pendulum, the same laws can be applied by conceiving the whole mass of the pendulum united in one point, called the center of oscillation, whose distance from the line of suspension is equal to the length of a simple pendulum vibrating in the same time as the given compound pendulum."

"FIGHTING JOE HOOKER."

MARION, Dakota.

When and where did General Joe Hooker first gain

his notoriety as "Fighting Joe?" When did he graduate from West Point, and at what age did he die?

T. W. S.

Answer.—General Hooker graduated at West Point in 1837, at the age of 22. He was born in 1815 at Hadley, Mass., and died at New York Oct. 31, 1879. General Hooker took an active part in the Peninsula Campaign, and at the battle of Williamsburg and Fair Oaks. Then he was always counseling battle, always in for a fight with the rebels. He even went so far as to advise General McClellan to disobey the orders of General Halleck to retire from the Peninsula, and urged him to go in and on to Richmond. He foresaw that McClellan would lose his head if he followed orders, and if he disobeyed them, the result would not be much different; whereas, if he secured a brilliant victory, even while disobeying orders, the country would sustain him. This extraordinary counsel, by one officer to another, to disobey the orders of the General-in-chief of the army, gained for General Hooker the title of "Fighting Joe."

SILVER CERTIFICATES.

JEFFERSON, Ohio.
Please state who was the author of the bill authorizing the issue of silver certificates? What are the features of the bill?

R. A. BLACK.

Answer.—The silver certificate bill came through Mr. Wood from the Committee on Ways and Means, Jan. 15, 1879, and as first reported was as follows: "That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to issue, in exchange for lawful money of the United States that may be presented for such exchange, certificates of deposit, of the denomination of \$10, bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent per annum, and convertible at any time with accrued interest, into 3 per cent bonds described in the refunding act; and the money so received shall be applied only to the payment of the 5-20 bonds in the mode prescribed by said act, and he is authorized to prescribe suitable rules and regulations in conformity with this act." The bill was amended in the Senate, Feb. 10, making the certificates bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum; and Feb. 18, an amendment was made to apply the funds to payment not exclusively of 5-20 bonds, but of the bonds bearing interest at a rate of not less than 5 per cent.

RAINFALL — ALTITUDE—ORGANIZED TERRITORY.

LODGE, Ill.

1. What is an organized and unorganized Territory?
2. How is the annual rainfall of any place ascertained?
3. How is the height of mountains ascertained?

M. A. R.

Answer.—1. An organized Territory is one not yet admitted as a State into the Union, but organized with a separate Legislature, and under a Territorial Governor and other officers appointed by the President and Senate of the United States. The unorganized Territories are Alaska, Indian Territory, and the District of Columbia. 2. An apparatus is used called a rain gauge, by means of which the rainfall is collected and measured. 3. There are three principal methods in use for measuring heights. The first, pronounced by Schott as the most accurate, depends on the property of fluids when at rest

to present their surfaces at right angles to the direction of gravity: the second depends on the angular measure of elevation in combination with the known distance of the object, and having regard to the effect of atmospheric refraction: the third and least accurate method depends on the law of the decrease of pressure of the atmosphere with an increase of altitude. The first method employs the leveling instrument, the second the theodolite, and the third the barometer.

"ARTEMAS WARD."

BURLINGTON, Wis.

Please inform a reader of Artemas Ward. Who is or was he?

T. J.

Answer.—"Artemas Ward" was the popular name of the American humorist, Charles F. Browne, who was a native of Waterford, Me., where he was born April 26, 1834, and who died of consumption, at Southampton, Eng., March 6, 1867. He was a printer, worked at his trade in Maine, then went to Boston, and finally removed to Cincinnati. In the latter city he became a reporter for a weekly paper, and in 1858 wrote a letter purporting to be the communication of a traveling showman; to this he signed the name "Artemas Ward." He went to New York in 1860, started as the editor of a humorous paper, which failed, and then he went to lecturing. He published his first book in 1862, and three other volumes followed that. In 1866 he went to Great Britain, where he lectured with success, and while there he was contributor to some of the leading funny papers of London.

"HOW SLEEP THE BRAVE."

MINERAL POINT, Wis.

Who is the author of the following lines, and where will I find them:

"How sleep the brave, who sink to rest,
By all their country's wishes blest?"

F. E. HANSOOM.

Answer.—The author of these lines was William Collins, the brilliant lyric poet, who wrote the ode in which these lines occur. The ode is as follows:

How sleep the Brave, who sink to rest,
By all their Country's wishes blest!
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallow'd mould,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

By fairy hands their knell is rung,
By forms unseen their dirge is sung;
There Honor comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay,
And Freedom shall awhile repair
To dwell a weeping hermit there!

NITRO GLYCERINE AND DYNAMITE.

LA MOILLE, Ill.

Please give the explosive power of nitro-glycerine and dynamite, compared with gunpowder.

O. D. M.

Answer.—The advantages of nitro-glycerine as an explosive consist in its instantaneous development of force, due to the fact, says General Abbott, that, pound for pound, it produces at least three and a half times as much gas, and twice as much heat as gunpowder. The same authority says that experiment indicates that the explosive force of dynamite is not quite so instantaneous as that of pure nitro-glycerine; hence in certain kinds of resisting media, where

a sustained pressure is required, the mechanical work performed by three-quarters of a pound of dynamite may largely exceed that produced by a full pound of the unabsorbed material.

FROG AND TADPOLE.

KANEVILLE, Ill.

I would like some information concerning tadpoles, commonly called pollywogs. Do their tails drop off? Do frogs spawn like fish, and do those spawn hatch out the tadpoles? I have some tadpoles in a fruit can, and have had them now over a month.

E. J. S.

Answer.—The tadpole's development shows that as the limbs begin to bud forth and grow the tail dwindles, not falling off, but being absorbed gradually. The eggs of the frog, consisting of little black specks, surrounded by an albuminous envelope, are fertilized during their extrusion from the body of the female, and are generally deposited at the bottom of the water, ascending, however, soon after to the surface, owing to the swelling and partial decomposition of the glairy substance surrounding the ova.

CONFIRMING PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.

CHESTER, Howard Co., Iowa.

I heard the statement that the President's appointments did not have to be confirmed by the Senate. Please give us the facts.

THOMAS MCKENZIE.

Answer.—The Constitution of the United States (Article II, Section II.) provides that the President "shall nominate, and by and with the consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law; but the Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments."

POSTAL CARDS.

BEAVER CROSSING, Neb.

Please give the date when postal cards were first used.

FRANK THOMPSON.

Answer.—Postal cards were first adopted by Germany. By an act of Congress, June 8, 1872, the Postmaster General was authorized and directed to issue postal cards to the public at a cost of one cent each. The first cards were issued in May, 1873. The enormous number of 276,446,716 postal cards were issued during the last postal year, according to the report of the Postmaster General. When the cards were first introduced we are informed that the government paid \$1.40 per 1,000 for them, but recently they cost about 70 cents per 1,000, and the article is quite an improvement on those first issued.

CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK.

OSCO, Ill.

How large is Central Park, in New York City?

P.

Answer.—Central Park is a parallelogram, two and a half miles long and one-half a mile wide. It comprises 862 acres, of which 185 are covered with water—forty-three acres of lakes and 142 of reservoirs.

GRAND JURY SYSTEM.

OSCO, Ill.

Can any State establish the Grand Jury system? P.

Answer.—The constitution of the State of Illinois says: "No person shall be held to answer

for a criminal offense, unless on indictment of a grand jury, except in cases in which the punishment by fine or imprisonment otherwise than in the penitentiary. In cases of impeachment, and in cases arising in the army and navy, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; provided, that the grand jury may be abolished by law in all cases."

THE POET FABER.

RACINE, Wis.

Please give a sketch of the life of F. W. Faber, the poet.

A. A. MCKENNEY.

Answer.—He was born June 28, 1815, and died Sept. 23, 1863. For a time he was a clergyman of the Church of England, but became a priest of the Roman Catholic Church, his conversion to that body having been consummated formally in 1847. He was a prolific writer, having been the author of tracts, sermons, poems, works on travel, essays, etc. Several years before his death he became Superior of the Oratory of Brompton.

ALBERT BIERSTADT, THE ARTIST.

ROODHOUSE, Ill.

Where was the artist Bierstadt from, how old is he, and where does he reside?

J. TEWKSBURY.

Answer.—The great artist was born in Drusseldorf, Germany, in 1829, and came to this country with his family when he was but two years of age. He resides at New York.

DORYLEUM.

ATSEGO, Mich.

Please give the location of Doryleum, captured by the Christians, from the Turks, during the crusades, also state if it has any other name?

S. G. STRAAT.

Answer.—Probably Dorylaeum is meant. It was in Phrygia. The defeat of the Turks there occurred in 1097. That is the only name by which the authorities designate it.

TO VOTE IN ENGLAND.

NEWMAN, Ill.

What qualifications are required of voters in England?

I. F. SWANSON.

Answer.—The most recent enactments in reference to suffrage are those in the reform bill of 1867-68. The leading provisions as regard England were as follows: The first establishing household suffrage in boroughs, and the second occupation franchise in counties: "Every man shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and, when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament for a borough, who is qualified as follows: First, Is of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity. Second, Is on the last day of July in any year, and has during the whole of the preceding twelve calendar months been an inhabitant occupier, as owner or tenant, of any dwelling house within the borough. Third, Has during the time of such occupation been rated as an ordinary occupier in respect of the premises so occupied by him, within the borough to all rates made for the relief of the poor in respect of such premises. Fourth, Has before the 20th day of July in the same year bona fide paid an equal amount in the pound to that payable by other ordinary occupiers in respect of poor-rates that have become payable by him in respect of said premises."

up to the preceding 5th day of January, and which have been demanded of him in manner hereinafter mentioned; or as a lodger has occupied in the same borough separately, and as sole tenant for twelve months preceding the last day of July in any year, the same lodgings, such lodgings being part of one and the same dwelling house, and of the value, if let unfurnished, of £10 and upward, and has resided in such lodgings during the twelve months immediately preceding the last day of July, and has claimed to be registered as a voter at the next ensuing registration of voters; provided, that no man shall, under this section, be entitled to be registered as a voter by reason of his being a joint occupier of any dwelling house." The other important clause of the new act states: "Every man shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and, when registered, to vote for a member, or members, to serve in Parliament for a county, who is qualified as follows: First, Is of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity; and who shall be seized at law or in equity of any lands or tenements of copyhold, or any other tenure whatever, except freehold for his own life, or for the life of an another, or for any lives whatsoever, or for any larger estate of the clear yearly value of not less than £5 over and above all rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same, or who shall be entitled either as lessee or assignee to any lands or tenements of freehold, or of any other tenure whatever, for the unexpired residue, whatever it may be, of any term originally created for a period of not less than sixty years of the clear yearly value of not less than £5 over and above all rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same. Second, Is, on the last day of July in any year, and has during the twelve months immediately preceding been, the occupier, as owner or tenant, of lands or tenements within the county of the ratable value of £12 or upward. Third, has, during the time of such occupation, been rated in respect to the premises so occupied by him to all rates made for the relief of the poor in respect of said premises. And, fourth, has, before the 20th day of July in the same year, paid all poor-rates that have become payable by him in respect of said premises up to the preceding 5th day of January."

NIHILISM IN RUSSIA.

ATHENS, Tenn.

What gave rise to the Nihilist party of Russia, and what is the policy or principle advocated by the party? What is the name of the party which they oppose, and what its policy? What party has the majority?

WM. FLOYD RAMEY.

Answer.—The Nihilistic faction in Russia organized under the influence of the philosophy of Bakunin, who, in 1848, preached the doctrine of destruction. His theory was that society, as it existed, was in belief, impulse, and habit, all wrong, and that reform was possible only after the existing state of things had been annihilated. He argued that all governments and all churches should be overthrown, and that society should be reconstructed on communistic principles. Under cover of this agitation the Ni-

hilists entered politics, using assassination and menace to accomplish their ends. The extremists of this party are responsible for the assassination of the Czar and other acts connected therewith. They are known as "Terrorists," and aim at the destruction of all government. They are said to be comparatively few in number. The main body of the so-called Nihilists aim at a peaceful revolution which will make away with Czarism and establish a republic. Opposite to these two factions are the Russophiles, uncompromisingly in favor of the present form of government; the Slavophiles, who favor the ancient Russian government when the Czar governed according to the counsels of the Assembly of Land Representatives; the Liberal party, represented by the late Czar and General Melikoff, and the German and Polish parties. All of these are, as has been said, opposed to the Nihilists, and are practically united against them.

A FAMOUS FAMILY.

ADRIAN, Hancock County, Ill.

Please give a short sketch of Herschel, the astronomer. J. M. T.

Answer.—The Herschels have been about as famous a family in astronomy as the Pitts or the Adams family have been in politics, or the Hodges in theology. Sir William Herschel was born in Hanover, Nov. 15, 1738, and died near Windsor, Aug. 23, 1822. Holden says the name is undoubtedly Jewish, and is found in Poland, Germany, and England. It is said that this branch of the family left Moravia about the beginning of the seventeenth century on account of their change of religion to Protestantism. The great-grandfather of Sir William was a brewer in a small town near Dresden. There were ten children in the family, the future astronomer being the fourth, and Carolina Lucretia was the eighth. The father was a musician, and at 14 years of age the young sky-gazer was placed by his parents in the band of the Hanoverian Foot Guards. In 1757 he went to England, devoted himself for years to music, being teacher, organist, etc. Then he studied astronomy, especially the construction of optical instruments. In this way he began to study the heavens, and discovered Uranus, sometimes called Herschel for the astronomer. This made him known over Europe, and he became private astronomer to the King, with a salary of £400 per annum and a house near Windsor. He made many discoveries and gained fame in sidereal astronomy, of which, says one writer, he laid the foundations. His sister, Carolina Lucretia, gave her brother great assistance in his astronomical work and researches, and for her services received a pension from George III. Between 1786 and 1805 she discovered alone eight comets, of five of which she was the first observer. Her contributions to science have been very valuable, and for her services for this, and in other respects, she received a gold medal from the Astronomical Society of London, and was elected an honorary member of it. Sir William had one son, Sir John, who was born

where his father died, March 7, 1792, and who died May 11, 1871. He also devoted himself to astronomy, to which he made many valuable contributions. His great enterprise was his expedition to the Cape of Good Hope, to take observations of the whole firmament of the southern hemisphere. The Royal Astronomical Society voted him a gold medal, he was highly honored on all hands, and when Queen Victoria was crowned, he was created a baronet. He held a number of honorary offices, among others that of President of the Royal Astronomical Society, Master of the Mint, and one of the eight foreign associates of the French Academy of Science. His contributions to photography are to be noted, as well as his calculations as to the density of the atmosphere, and his views concerning the absorption of light.

PHASES OF THE INDIAN QUESTION.

ARGOS, Marshall Co., Ind.

1. Please tell me how the Indians were removed from the region of the Black Hills. 2. How many Indians were there in the limits of the United States in 1700, and how many are there at the present time?

D. E. VANVACTOR.

Answer.—1. The Black Hills country was included in the treaty of 1868, with the Sioux, by which the territory "lying between the northern boundary of Nebraska and the forty-sixth parallel, and bounded on the east by the Missouri, and west by the one hundred and fourth degree of west longitude, together with the reservations then existing on the east side of the Missouri, was set apart for the absolute and undisturbed use and occupation of the Sioux for their permanent home." In 1874 General Custer's exploring expedition visited the Black Hills, and in 1875 a scientific expedition under Professor Walter P. Jenney, accompanied by a military escort under Colonel Richard I. Dodge, of the United States army. These expeditions disclosed the fact that the Black Hills country, rich in mines, timber, and grazing, was unused by the Indians in whose reservation the territory was situated. After them whites poured into the country, against the orders of General Crook, whose troops were too few in number to keep them out, and when once in, it was impossible to dislodge them. In the fall of 1875 a council was assembled at Red Cloud Agency to negotiate the purchase of the country, but concluded without making any arrangements with the Indians, who became restless, depredations followed, the disaffected left the agencies and joined in what has become known as the "Sitting Bull movement," and the war of 1876, led by Crazy Horse and other Sioux chiefs, resulted in the subduing of the tribes then on the war-path. In the meanwhile the Black Hills had been rapidly settled, rich mines had been found, towns built, counties organized, and thousands of people had made homes in the hills. 2. There have been many estimates of the number of Indians that were, in 1700, in what we now know as the United States, but none are satisfactory. Indeed, even now estimates of their number vary widely, the census of 1870 placing them at about 350,000, while others offer estimates which show that the Indian population is about 200,000. The

more moderate place the number in the neighborhood of 275,000 or 280,000.

THURLOW WEED.

DANVILLE, IOWA.

Can you furnish a complete sketch of the life of Thurlow Weed?

HARRY FORRESTER.

Answer.—This venerable American journalist is a native of New York, having been born at Cairo, in Greene County, Nov. 15, 1797. He learned printing at Catskill, but, in the war of 1812, we find him serving on the Northern frontier as a private and as quartermaster sergeant. Subsequently, he established a paper at Norwich, and, for a dozen years thereafter, edited various journals. He was for a time the editor of an anti-Masonic paper published at Rochester, and, during the anti-Masonic excitement in New York, he was quite prominently identified with the party that opposed the Masonic fraternity, and by that party was twice sent to the General Assembly of his State. Mr. Weed was a party manager of recognized ability, which brought him before the public in many ways. From the year 1830 to 1862 he was a leader in politics, first of the Whig and afterward of the Republican party. He supported Fremont in 1856 and Lincoln in 1860, although as a New Yorker he had been in favor of the nomination of Seward. He was for over twenty years at the head of the *Albany Journal*. In 1861 he was sent by President Lincoln to Europe on a semi-diplomatic mission, and not long after his return retired from the paper named above. The year of the close of the war he removed to New York and edited for a time the *Commercial Advertiser* of that city. Increasing infirmities and impaired health compelled him to retire from active journalism. His life covered a most important part of the history of the Republic, and has been one of unusual activity.

WEBSTER'S SPEECH MARCH 7, 1850.

PAWNEE CITY, Neb.

What was the "7th of March speech" of Daniel Webster, spoken of by Parton in his biography?

W. B.

Answer.—Clay, Jan. 25, 1850, submitted a series of resolutions to the Senate on the subject of slavery, in connection with the various questions which had arisen in consequence of the acquisition of Mexican territory. These resolutions furnished the occasion of a protracted debate. Wednesday, March 6, Senator Walker, of Wisconsin, engaged in the debate, but owing to the length of time taken up by frequent interruptions, he was unable to finish his argument. In the meantime it had been learned that Webster would at an early day take an opportunity of addressing the Senate on the aspect of slavery at that time, on the dangers to the Union of the existing agitation, and on the terms of honorable adjustment. In the expectation of hearing a speech from him on these engrossing subjects, an immense audience assembled in the Senate Chamber, March 7. The special order of the day was announced at 12 o'clock, and the Vice President stated that Mr. Walker, of Wisconsin, was entitled to the floor. That gentleman arose and

said: "This vast audience has not come together to hear me, and there is but one man, in my opinion, who can assemble such an audience. They expect to hear him, and I feel it to be my duty, therefore, as it is my pleasure, to give the floor to the Senator from Massachusetts." Webster then rose, and delivered the speech which, in consideration of its character and of the manner in which it was received throughout the country, has been entitled a speech for "the Constitution and the Union."

THE OLD "CONSTITUTION."

CHICAGO.

What has become of the old ship Constitution, the "Ironside," as she was known to so many of us at school?

MARINER.

Answer.—Though more than four-score years of age, the Constitution is yet in the national service. Many years ago, when the Navy Department contemplated breaking her up and selling her timbers, Oliver Wendell Holmes came forward with his stirring, patriotic poem, which powerfully influenced the public mind. The lines will be well remembered:

"Ay, tear her tattered ensign down!

Long has it waved on high,

And many an eye has danced to see

That banner in the sky.

Beneath it rung the battle shout,

And burst the cannon's roar;

The meteor of the ocean air

Shall sweep the clouds no more!

"Oh! better that her shattered hulk

Should sink beneath the wave;

Her thunders shook the mighty deep,

And there should be her grave.

Nail to the mast her holy flag,

Set every threadbare sail,

And give her to the god of storms,

The lightning and the gale."

THE JEWISH TABERNACLE.

RURAL.

What became of the Tabernacle which Moses and Aaron made in the wilderness when the Temple was destroyed at Jerusalem?

MRS. R. A. DIVINE.

Answer.—Eminent Biblical scholars say that there is undoubtedly mention in the Old Testament of two sacred tabernacles, the one erected in the wilderness, and the other that in which David put the ark, and where it remained until the completion of the Temple. The old tabernacle was in the meantime at Gibeon. It is uncertain whether Solomon removed it or the Davidic tabernacle into the Temple, most likely the latter. When the journeyings of the Israelites were ended, and they entered Canaan, the tabernacle was erected at Gilgal, where it remained until the country was subdued, and when it was removed to Shiloh, where it stood for between 300 and 400 years. It was thence removed to Nob, where it was at the commencement of Solomon's reign, and when the Temple was completed it is the opinion of some that it was removed into it. The Temple of Solomon stood, altogether, 424 years, but it was plundered by Shishak, King of Egypt, during the reign of Rehoboam, and after that was frequently profaned and pillaged, and was at last broken down and destroyed by the King of Babylon, and the nation itself carried into captivity.

THE "DEVIL" IN AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY.

EDINA, KNOX CO., MO.

There is a dispute between an old pioneer and my-

self. He claims that Devil's Gate is on the Sweetwater. Is there more than one Devil's Gate and on what stream is it?

READER.

Answer.—The number of lakes, slides, ovens, gates, bridges, towers, bluffs, falls, kitchens, creeks, etc., that have had the word "devil" attached to them is simply immense. From the forests of Maine to the adobe villages on the Mexican border and the Dalles of the Columbia, there is hardly a locality that has not remembered his Satanic majesty. The best known Devil's Gate, on the line of the Union Pacific Railroad, is that a few stations east of Ogden, and in Utah. It is a wild, picturesque spot, and one worth a visit of the tourist. There are a good many Devil's Gates, and, no doubt, in the christening of the Sweetwater, the miners found it convenient to give the ubiquitous party a way out of that country.

THE POPLAR.

SPRING GROVE, NEB.

Please inform me if "popple" and "poplar" are the same, and if they are considered timber under the timber culture laws?

LOMBARDY.

Answer.—Poplars are called "popples" in England and the United States. The word is used as a localism. Under rulings of the Secretary of the Interior poplar is not considered timber. By that official "timber" is defined to be that kind of wood which is proper for building or for tools, utensils, furniture, carriages, fences, ships, and the like; and in another decision, pine, oak, ash, elm, walnut, and hickory are especially referred to as timber trees, and to this list cottonwood was added.

WADE HAMPTON.

RICHMOND, ILL.

Please give a short sketch of Wade Hampton.

H. C. HOSKINS.

Answer.—He was born at Columbia, S. C. March 18, 1818, and was a grandson of that Wade Hampton who was prominently identified with Marion and Sumter in the revolutionary struggle. He served in both branches of the State Legislature and was a member of the Senate when the State seceded. He commanded a regiment known as the Hampton Legion at the first battle of Bull Run, where he was wounded. After having been made a Brigadier General, he fought in the Peninsular campaign, and was once more wounded at Seven Pines. He was in the army that invaded Maryland under Lee in August, 1862, and was at Antietam. He was severely wounded at Gettysburg, and subsequently was made Lieutenant General, and commanded the cavalry of Lee's army in Virginia in the summer of 1864. In 1876 he was declared elected Governor of South Carolina, and again in 1878, and was elected to the United States Senate in December, 1878, and took his seat April 16, 1879. His term expires in March, 1885.

TOBACCO.

MATHEWSON, KAN.

1. Please inform me where tobacco first grew. 2. What people first used it? 3. How much does it cost the people of the United States every year? M. D. C.

Answer.—1 and 2. It would be about as difficult to determine the location of the Garden of Eden. When America was discovered it was found in use by the natives of the islands and

the continent as far north as Virginia, and its introduction to civilized nations probably dates from that time. 3. The tobacco crop for 1879 was 391,278,350 pounds, and the internal revenue receipts for that year were \$40,135,003. The internal revenue receipts for 1880 on tobacco were \$38,870,140.

EDNA DEAN PROCTOR.

GLEN SHARRALD, Kan.

Please tell us something about Edna Dean Proctor.
N. PERLEY.

Answer.—Miss Proctor became known from her "Life Thoughts," gathered from the extemporaneous discourses of Henry Ward Beecher, which was very widely read and which sparkled with the great preacher's gems of thought. Miss Proctor has published what are known as fugitive poems and a collection of her verses in a volume. They have a finish, force, and grace that give them a high place, and breathe a spirit of patriotism and devotion which commends itself to the intelligent reader.

HIGH AND LOW-PRESSURE ENGINES.

MAGNOLIA, Wis.

1. What is the difference between a high and low-pressure engine? 2. Why do they use low-pressure engines generally on water?
J. BARRETT.

Answer.—1. The term "high-pressure" is applied to engines supplied with steam of fifty pounds pressure to the square inch and upward; and "low-pressure" is applied to engines working under forty pounds pressure. 2. In former years marine engines were usually driven by steam of moderate pressure, but within a few years the pressure of the steam, which in the time of Watt was usually from five to ten pounds above the atmosphere, has risen to sixty pounds and upward.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

WEST UNION, Fayette Co., Iowa.

Please state whether the members of Parliament receive a salary from government or not. If not, please state how they are paid.
W. G. WADE.

Answer.—Members of Parliament receive no salary. The cost of an election to Parliament is always considerable, and at times immense sums of money are spent in close elections. Persons become candidates for the honor of it. It has happened in the cases of some of the greatest statesmen of Great Britain that they were brought out by prominent men, and their election expenses paid by their patrons.

WASHINGTON'S TOMB—THE WEBSTERS.

OSWEGO, Ind.

1. Where was George Washington buried? 2. What relation was Noah Webster to Daniel Webster?
JAMES FARBER.

Answer.—1. Washington's remains were deposited in a family vault on the banks of the Potomac at Mount Vernon. 2. They belonged to entirely distinct and different families.

THE NEW ILLINOIS DENTAL LAW.

BLANDINSVILLE, Ill.

Please give me a synopsis of the dental law of Illinois, when it takes effect, etc.
SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—According to the act approved May 30, 1881, to practice dental surgery in Illinois a person must have received a diploma from the faculty of some reputable dental college, duly authorized by the laws of this or some other of the United States, or by the laws of some foreign

country, in which college or colleges there was at the time of the issue of such diploma annually delivered a full course of lectures and instruction in dental surgery. Any person removing to this State, who shall have been a practicing dentist for ten years, or who holds the diploma of doctor of medicine from any reputable medical college, shall be entitled to practice dentistry in this State, and this act does not prohibit any physician or surgeon from extracting teeth. The law further provides for the creation of a board of examiners, to consist of five practicing dentists, whose duty it shall be to carry out the purposes and enforce the provisions of the act. The board shall choose their president and secretary, and a majority shall constitute a quorum, and shall meet at least once a year, and the proceedings shall at all reasonable times be open to public inspection. It shall be the duty of every person engaged in the practice of dentistry in this State, within six months from the date of the passage of this act, to cause his or her name and residence or place of business to be registered with the board of examiners, who shall keep a book for that purpose, and every person who so registers may continue to practice the same as such without incurring any of the liabilities or penalties provided in this act. No person not registered as above provided shall be permitted to practice until examined and regularly licensed by the board, and any and all who desire may appear before the board at any regular meeting; and, if they pass an examination satisfactory to the board, a license shall be issued to them. Any member of the board may issue a temporary license to any applicant, upon the presentation by the applicant of the evidence of the necessary qualifications to practice dentistry, and such temporary license shall remain in force until the next regular meeting of the board. Violations of the provisions of this act may be punished on conviction, on information, or by indictment, by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$50 for each and every offense. Each person applying to or appearing before the board for examination for license may be charged a fee of \$2, and, out of the funds thus coming into the board's possession, the members of the board may receive as compensation the sum of \$5 a day for each day actually engaged in the duties of their office, and all legitimate and necessary expenses incurred in attending the board's meetings; and said expenses shall be paid out from the fees and penalties received by the board under the provisions of the act; no part of the salary or other expenses of the board shall ever be paid out of the State Treasury. Any person licensed by the board to practice dentistry shall cause his or her license to be registered with the county clerk of any county or counties in which such person may desire to engage in the practice of dentistry, and county clerks shall charge for each registration the sum of 25 cents; and any failure to comply with this registration clause shall work a forfeiture of the license; and no license, when

once forfeited, shall be restored, except on the payment to the board of examiners of the sum of \$25 as a penalty for such neglect, failure, or refusal.

THE MORMON "ENDOWMENT HOUSE."

JANESVILLE, Wis.

What is meant by the "Endowment House" of Mormon notoriety?

M. PHELPS.

Answer.—The "Endowment House" is where all the "Mormon marriages" take place. It stands near the great Tabernacle, and is surrounded by a solid stone wall ten feet high.

ALLAN PINKERTON.

JOSLIN, Ill.

Will you please settle a dispute as to the nationality and life of Allan Pinkerton, Chief of the Detective Force, Chicago, and how long he has been in your city?

W. J.

Answer.—Major Allan Pinkerton was born in Gorbals, city of Glasgow, Scotland, Aug. 20, 1819, and came to this country in 1841. After a short residence in this city he went to Dundee, Kane County, Ill., and ran a cooper-shop there for several years. He was appointed Deputy Sheriff, and, having good success, was induced in 1849 to accept the same position under William L. Church, then Sheriff of Cook County. In 1851 he was appointed detective, the first Chicago ever had, by Mayor Gurney. In 1853 he organized his detective agency, which has been in operation ever since, and is now famous the world over. He was called upon by President Lincoln to organize the secret service of the United States for the Army and Treasury departments. He remained in charge of the government detectives at Washington and with the army of the Potomac, under the Secretary of War and Generals Burnside, McClellan, and Hooker. At his own request, in 1863, he was transferred to the Military Division of the Southwest under Major General Canby, and remained there till the close of the war, with headquarters at New Orleans. In the meantime his Chicago agency had been run by Edward Rucker, and when the chief returned, the agency was immediately reorganized. In 1865 he started an office in New York, of which Robert A. Pinkerton is now superintendent, and in 1866 he opened another in Philadelphia, of which Robert J. Linden is the present superintendent. There are 350 employes in the different agencies, all drawing salaries, and none of them are permitted to receive rewards or gratuities of any kind. The Chicago office is the headquarters, and there Allan himself, with his 62 years, can daily be found, being on hand early in the morning, and always attentive to his duties.

CAVES—WYANDOTTE AND MAMMOTH.

FAIRMOUNT, Kan.

Please give a short description of the Wyandotte Cave, in the southern part of Indiana; also of the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky.

F. B. SMITH.

Answer.—Wyandotte Cave is in Jennings Township, Crawford County, Ind., near the Ohio River. It is a rival of the great Mammoth Cave in grandeur and extent. Explorations have been made for many miles. It excels the Mammoth Cave in the number and variety of its stalagmites and stalactites, and in the size of

several of its chambers. One of these chambers is 350 feet in length, 245 feet in height, and contains a hill 175 feet high, on which are three fine stalagmites. Ensom salts, nitre, and alum have been obtained from the earth of the cave. The Mammoth Cave is in Edmondson County, near Green River, about seventy-five miles from Louisville. Its entrance is reached by passing down a wild, rocky ravine through a dense forest. The cave extends some nine miles. To visit the portions already traversed, it is said, requires 150 to 200 miles of travel. The cave contains a succession of wonderful avenues, chambers, domes, abysses, grottoes, lakes, rivers, cataracts, and other marvels, which are too well known to need more than a reference. One chamber—the Star—is about 500 feet long, 70 feet wide, 70 feet high, the ceiling of which is composed of black gypsum, and is studded with innumerable white points, that by a dim light resemble stars, hence the name of the chamber. There are avenues one and a half and even two miles in length, some of which are incrustated with beautiful formations, and present the appearance of enchanted palaces halls. There is a natural tunnel about three-quarters of a mile long, 100 feet wide, covered with a ceiling of smooth rock 45 feet high. There is a chamber having an area of from four to five acres, and there are domes 200 and 300 feet high. Echo River is some three-fourths of a mile in length, 200 feet in width at some points, and from 10 to 30 in depth, and runs beneath an arched ceiling of smooth rock about 15 feet high; while the Styx, another river, is 450 feet long, from 15 to 40 feet wide, and from 30 to 40 feet deep, and is spanned by a natural bridge. Lake Lethe has about the same length and width as the river Styx, varies in depth from 3 to 40 feet, lies beneath a ceiling some 90 feet above its surface, and sometimes rises to a height of 60 feet. There is also a Dead Sea, quite a somber body of water. There are several interesting caves in the neighborhood, one three miles long, and three each about a mile in length.

GARRISON AND WADE.

UNION, Hardin Co., Iowa.

Please give a sketch of the life of William Lloyd Garrison; also of Benj. F. Wade.

W. G. WHITNEY.

Answer.—Garrison was born at Newburyport, Mass., Dec. 12, 1804, and when very young his father died, and he was left to the care of a Christian mother. When only 9 years old he was apprenticed to a shoemaker, but found his health would not permit him to continue the trade. He then, after some efforts to secure the advantages of an academy, became apprenticed to the publisher of a paper in his native town, and, while learning this trade, kept up his studies and began to contribute for the press. At the age of 24 he became editor and proprietor of a paper at Newburyport, but this enterprise was not a success. In 1827 he became editor of a total abstinence journal in Boston, which was united later with a temperance and anti-slavery paper in Bennington, Vt. Subsequently, he

united with Benjamin Lundy, a Quaker, in the publication of "The Genius of Universal Emancipation," where his uncompromising spirit soon manifested itself, and Garrison was imprisoned for libel. His fine was paid by a philanthropist, and Garrison went to Boston, where, Jan. 1, 1831, he issued the first number of the historical *Liberator*. He started without money, and did not have even an office. In 1832 he visited England, where he was well received by many of the leaders of public opinion. When the American Anti-Slavery Association was organized at Philadelphia he took a prominent part in the work. He lectured frequently, and was on one occasion dragged through the streets of Boston by a mob for pleading the cause of the bondman. Garrison was persecuted greatly, and the Governor of Georgia once offered \$5,000 for his arrest. The warfare he waged against slavery was continued until the slaves were set free, and Jan. 1, 1866, he published the last number of the *Liberator*. From that time till his death, which occurred May 24, 1879, he was engaged in writing on various topics. Benjamin Franklin Wade was born at Springfield, Mass., Oct. 27, 1800. Like Garrison, and many of the most eminent men of this country, his early life was a struggle to obtain an education—a struggle which was successful. In 1826 he began the study of law, and two years after was admitted to the bar in Ashtabula County, Ohio. In 1847 he was chosen presiding Judge of the Third District of the State, and in 1851 was elected United States Senator, and re-elected in 1857 and 1863. In 1865 he became President pro tem. of the Senate and Acting Vice President of the United States. In March, 1867, he was elected President of the Senate. Senator Wade was a strong anti-slavery leader, a stalwart Union man, and advocated the homestead bill for years, and it was in his charge that it finally passed through the Senate. He was a member of the San Domingo Commission, and favored the annexation of that island to the United States. His death occurred March 2, 1878, at Jefferson, Ohio.

SIMON CAMERON.

UNION, Hardin Co., Iowa.

1. Please give a sketch of the life of Simon Cameron. 2. What does "tariff for revenue only" imply, and what "tariff for protection?" J. B. BROWN.

Answer.—1. This veteran is a native of the State in which he has so long been a political leader, and by which he has so often been honored by the highest places within the gift of the people. He was born in Lancaster County March 8, 1799, and when but 9 years of age was left an orphan. While following his employment as a printer he educated himself, and when 22 years old he edited and published a Democratic paper at Harrisburg. In the year 1832 he established the Middletown bank, and gave much time and attention to the railroad interests of Pennsylvania. He was President of two railroad companies and Adjutant General of the State. In 1845 he was elected United States Senator and served until 1849. and in 1857 he was

again elected to the same office for the term ending 1863, but resigned in 1861, when he became the first Secretary of War under President Lincoln. In 1862 he resigned, and was appointed United States Minister to Russia. In 1867 he was again elected Senator for the term ending 1873, and was once more elected for the term ending in 1879, but he resigned, and his son, Don Cameron, was elected in March, 1877, to succeed him. 2. A "tariff for revenue" is a tariff imposed to aid in the support of the government; a "tariff for protection" is for the purpose of protecting United States industries of various kinds against the cheap-labor products of other countries.

AN AMERICAN CONGRESS.

ROCKFORD, ILL.

Please give an account of the Colonial Congress that met in New York, at Albany. TEACHER.

Answer.—The first Colonial Congress was proposed in 1765. At Boston James Otis agitated the question of a congress, and it was suggested that each colony, acting without leave of the King, should appoint delegates, who should meet in the following autumn and discuss the affairs of the nation. The Congress met Oct. 7, and was composed of twenty-eight members from nine of the thirteen colonies, and drew up a declaration of rights, a petition to the King, and a memorial to both houses of Parliament. Timothy Ruggles, of Massachusetts, was chosen President, and John Cotton was Secretary. The President and Robert Ogden of New Jersey, would not sign the papers. Ruggles was reprimanded in the Massachusetts Assembly, and Ogden was deposed from the office of Speaker in the New Jersey Assembly. There was, however, an American Congress at Albany, N. Y., in June, 1754. This was a convention of delegates from the Colonial Assemblies to strengthen the ties with the Iroquois, and take steps for a closer alliance of the colonies. A plan for colonial confederation was drawn up by a committee, of which Ben Franklin was a member, and adopted by the convention, but the English lords refused to approve it, as they held it seemed to promote colonial liberty, while the provincial assemblies rejected it on the ground that it appeared to promote royal power.

GUTENBERG'S BIBLE—LEGAL TENDER.

HORD, ILL.

1. Please give an account of "Gutenberg's Old Testament." 2. What is the difference between "legal-tender notes" and "national bank notes?" 3. Is the trade dollar worth one hundred cents now?

M. M. GLEASON.

Answer.—1. It was printed from movable types, was in Latin, and was issued at Mayence, or as it is sometimes written, Mainz or Mentz. The knowledge of the art of printing was disseminated, and while we may remember only the fact that Gutenberg's Bible was issued 400 years ago, yet that fact simply indicates, as a milestone, what progress has been made since then. 2. We turn to the United States Statutes and find that "United States notes shall be lawful money and a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, within the United

States, except for duties and imports and interest on the public debt;" and that national bank notes "shall be received at par in all parts of the United States in payment of taxes, excise, public lands, and all other dues to the United States, except duties in imports; and also for all salaries and other debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations, and associations within the United States, except interest on the public debt, and in redemption of the national currency." 3. The trade dollar is worth now just the amount of silver it contains; in other words, what bullion is worth.

A BRITISH GUIANA HILL.

BELLE RIVER, ILL.

Please give a description of a mountain called Roraima, in South America; its height, waterfalls, etc.

A READER.

Answer.—Probably Roraima is meant. It is estimated to be about 7,500 feet above the sea. It rises a perpendicular, inaccessible wall of red sandstone, and is in the extreme western limits of the colony. It gives origin to rivers tributary to the basins of the Orinoco, Amazon, and Essequibo. The celebrated fall is produced by the Potaro flowing over a sandstone and conglomerate table-land 822 feet into a deep valley below. For the first 741 feet the water falls perpendicularly as one great continuous whitish column, circled by rainbows, into a basin below, continuing thence over a sloping cataract 88 feet in height, and through the interstices of great blocks of rock, to the river below. The head of the fall is 1,130 feet above the sea. The river, 200 yards above the fall, is 400 feet wide, and the width of the fall itself varies, according to the season, from 240 to 370 feet.

GENERAL GRANT.

MILO, IOWA.

How much money did General Grant receive at the close of the war? What is the fund known as the General Grant fund?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—General Grant, at the close of the war, received many expressions of the public confidence in, and respect and enthusiasm for him. Among these was the fine residence at Galena, Ill., and several in other parts of the country. He was also the recipient of a present of \$100,000. The fund called by his name is for the purpose of providing for him in such a manner as will correspond with the service he rendered the country, and show the high esteem which is entertained for him by this Republic. It is wholly voluntary, and is a handsome expression of the people's regard for the foremost American of his time.

THE BRITISH PREMIER.

HALE VILLAGE, IOWA.

Please state what are the official duties and power of Mr. Gladstone in the British Parliament, and in what are they different from those incumbent upon Mrs. Blaine as Secretary of State?

J. C. A.

Answer.—The executive government of Great Britain and Ireland is vested nominally in the Crown, but is practically in a committee of ministers, called the Cabinet. The Cabinet is not chosen at any formal election, but is the creation of Parliament, or rather the House of Commons; that is to say, its existence depends upon the

Ministry having a majority in the lower body just named. The Cabinet should have representatives in the House of Lords as well as in the House of Commons, as the Ministry may be called upon for explanation by whatever party is the opposition. When a new Parliament is elected it is apparent that the Liberal or Conservative party, as the case may be, has the majority. Then the sovereign summons the leader or leaders of the party having such majority in the House of Commons, and the leader named is the chief of the Ministry, and it is at his recommendation that his colleagues are appointed. The chief dispenses, with scarcely an exception, the patronage of the Crown. From this it will be seen what the differences are between the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Secretary of State of the United States.

GOVERNORS OF IOWA.

EMMETTSBURG, IOWA.

Was there ever a Governor of Iowa named Markham? Please give a list of the Territorial and State Governors of Iowa to date.

J. L. MARTIN.

Answer.—There never was a Governor of Iowa named Markham. The Territorial and State Governors have been as follows:

Territorial.

Robert Lucas.....	1838-41
John Chambers.....	1841-46
James Clark.....	1846-46

State.

Ausel Briggs.....	1846-50
Stephen Hemstead.....	1850-54
James W. Grimes.....	1854-58
Ralph P. Lowe.....	1858-60
S. J. Kirkwood.....	1860-64
Wm. M. Stone.....	1864-68
Samuel Merrill.....	1868-72
C. C. Carpenter.....	1872-76
S. J. Kirkwood.....	1876-80
John H. Gear.....	1880-82

8,580—"WESTWARD THE COURSE OF EMPIRE."

CHICAGO.

We have a discussion in regard to whether the oft-quoted lines should read: "Westward the star of empire takes its way," or, "Westward the course of empire takes its way." Which is correct?

TWO WEST SIDE BOYS.

Answer.—The author was Bishop Berkeley, and the lines are as follows:

"Westward the course of empire holds its way;
The first four acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day;
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

POSTMASTERS READING POSTAL CARDS.

ADAIR, ILL.

Has a Postmaster any right to read postal cards?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The postallaws and regulations provide: "Postmasters and all others in the service are forbidden to furnish information concerning mail matter received or delivered, except to the persons to whom it is addressed or through their authorized agents. The messages on postal cards must not be read, except to facilitate their delivery or for the purpose of determining whether the same is unmailable by reason of the presence of obscene words or pictures thereon, nor made known to others."

QUEEN VICTORIA'S SONS.

WANATH, IND.

How many sons has Queen Victoria, where do they reside, what are their names, and are they married?

A READER.

Answer.—The Queen has four sons; Albert Edward, Prince of Wales; Prince Alfred, Duke

of Edinburgh; Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught; and Prince Leopold. The Prince of Wales was married March 10, 1863, to Princess Alexandra, eldest daughter of King Christian, of Denmark; Prince Alfred was married Jan. 21, 1874, to Grand Duchess Marie, of Russia; and Prince Arthur was married March 13, 1879, to Princess Louise, of Prussia.

WAFERS.

MEADVILLE, Pa.

How are wafers made—wafers for sealing papers?
I. S. W.

Answer—There are now very few wafers used for the purpose mentioned. The wafer is usually a composition of flour, the white of eggs, isinglass, and yeast, spread over with gum-water and dried.

WHO NOMINATED GENERAL ARTHUR.

CHICAGO.

Who nominated Chester A. Arthur at the Republican Convention here last year?
J. V. D.

Answer.—General Stewart L. Woodford, of New York, nominated General Arthur.

SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC.

WACO, Mo.

1. What are the signs of the zodiac? Are they real or imaginary? 2. Why do astronomers or those who make our almanacs put these signs, as they call them, in our almanacs if there is no such thing real?
J. DAVIDSON.

Answer.—1. The zodiac is an imaginary belt in the heavens, within which the motions of the sun, moon, and principal planets are confined. The names were given from a fanciful resemblance to the objects designated, which was supposed to be presented by the configuration of the stars. 2. The use of these signs in the common almanacs is a relic of the past, founded on the superstition of the middle ages, when it professed to show what parts the moon governs in mind and body, corresponding to the twelve signs of the zodiac. Almanac astronomy should be read as—a dime novel, perhaps.

JOSEPH SMITH'S PREDICTIONS.

UNION, Neb.

Please find inclosed Joseph Smith's prediction of the war of the rebellion. This is in answer to question 8,485. As to evidence that it was predicted before the war, Beedle's "Exposé of Mormonism," page 305, says he copies from one printed in the year 1854; and John Hyde's work against the Mormons, published in the year 1857, makes mention of the prediction on page 174.
JESSE ERVIN.

The extract inclosed by Mr. Ervin, is as follows: "Joseph Smith. Given December 25, 1832. 'Verily thus saith the Lord, concerning the wars that will shortly come to pass, beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina which will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls. The days will come that war will be poured out upon all nations, beginning at that place; for behold, the Southern States shall be divided against the Northern States, and the Southern States will call on other nations, even the nation of Great Britain, as it is called, and they shall also call upon other nations, in order to defend themselves against other nations; and thus war shall be poured out upon all nations. And it shall come to pass, after many days, slaves shall rise up against their masters, who shall be marshaled and disciplined for war. And it

shall come to pass also that the remnants who are left of the land will marshal themselves, and shall become exceeding angry, and shall vex the Gentiles with a sore vexation; and thus, with the sword, and by bloodshed, the inhabitants of the earth shall mourn; and with famine, and plague, and earthquakes, and the thunder of heaven, and the fierce and vivid lightning also, shall the inhabitants of the earth be made to feel the wrath and indignation and chastening hand of an Almighty God, until the consumption decreed hath made a full end of all nations; that the cry of the Saints, and of the blood of the Saints, shall cease to come up into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth, from the earth, to be avenged of their enemies. Wherefore, stand ye in holy places, and be not moved, until the day of the Lord come; for behold it cometh quickly, saith the Lord. Amen.'

Copied from the "Pearl of Great Price," printed July 11, 1851.

LORD BACON.

HERODEN, Ark.

Would you tell a constant reader something about the life of Lord Bacon?
S. W. MORELAND.

Answer.—It is impossible in the short space at our command to give anything like a correct idea of the wonderful man who has filled so large a place in the minds of the leaders of thought. We can only say that Francis Bacon was born at London, Jan. 22, 1561. His father, Sir Nicholas Bacon, was Lord Keeper of the Great Seal under Elizabeth. Soon after completing his twelfth year, he went to Cambridge, where he distinguished himself. He traveled on the continent, and returned to England in 1579 on account of his father's death. In 1582 he was admitted to the bar, and in 1589 became a member of Parliament, and in 1590 Counsel Extraordinary to the Queen, a distinction almost without example for one so young. In 1606 he married Alice Barnham, the daughter of a rich London merchant, and the succeeding year was made Solicitor General, and in 1613 became Attorney General and a member of the Privy Council; in 1617 he became Keeper of the Great Seal, and the following January was made Lord High Chancellor, the highest civil office to which any subject could then attain. In the following July he was created Baron Verulam, and admitted to the House of Peers, and in 1619 became Viscount Saint Albans. In 1620 he published his greatest work, the "Novum Organum." He was accused of accepting bribes, and, though at first strongly asserted his innocence, yet he afterward confessed his guilt, and was sentenced, May 3, 1621, to pay a fine of £40,000 and to be imprisoned at the King's pleasure. He was shown every indulgence, being sent to the tower but released two days after, and the fine was remitted. He was allowed an income of £1,200, a sum equal to five times that amount at the present day. He died April 19, 1626. His works are numerous, the best known being his "Essays," the "Novum Organum," "On the Wisdom of the Ancients," etc. He is described as one of the most illus-

trious of modern philosophers. Quite a number of able thinkers and writers attribute to him the authorship of some of the great plays of Shakespeare. Lord Bacon left no children.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD—CARLYLE.

1. Will you please state the age of President Garfield?
2. And give a brief sketch of the life of Carlyle, who died recently.

KENSSETT, Iowa.

A. M. HALL.

Answer.—1. President Garfield was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the township of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio. 2. Thomas Carlyle was born at Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Dec. 4, 1795, and was educated at Annan, and afterward at Edinburgh, where he graduated at the age of 18, and went to the "lang toun o' Kirkcaldy," where he taught school for a time. He was destined by his father and his father's minister to "wag his head in a pulpit," but decided, at the age of 23, that he would not enter the kirk. Carlyle was a while tutor in a private family, and made himself master of the German language and literature, and later returned to Edinburgh to enter his chosen profession, that of a "writer of books." He translated Legendre's geometry, wrote the "Life of Schiller," and translated Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister." In the year 1826 he married Jane Welsh, a lineal descendant of the great John Knox, who died in 1866. For six years, on the small estate of Craigenputtock, in a wild part of Dumfriesshire, he thought and wrote, among his works at that time being his essays, now known as his "Miscellanies," on Jean Paul Richter, Burns, and Novalis. In 1831 "Sartor Resartus" was written, and the year following Carlyle went to London. "The French Revolution" was written in 1837, the first of his works to which his name was formally attached, and it made an immense mark, although the critics of the day were not taken with it. In 1840 he published "Heroes and Hero Worship," and, after five years of work for the great magazines of the day, he issued the "Letters and Speeches of Oliver Cromwell." Then followed the "Life of John Sterling," in 1851, and in 1858 appeared the first two volumes of the "History of Frederick the Great," two more in 1862, and the last two in 1864. In 1865 he was elected Rector of Edinburgh University. His other works have been numerous and like—Carlyle.

LANGUAGE OF THE POSTAGE STAMP.

In case of a gentleman receiving a letter from a lady with the postage stamp inverted, what significance should be attached thereto; and are there any other ways of indicating anything by the manner in which the stamp is placed?

LA PORTE, Neb.

B. C. J.

Answer.—Some ingenious persons have given a meaning to the location of a postage stamp on a letter. For example, they say that when a stamp is inverted on the right hand upper corner it means the person written to is to write no more. If the stamp be placed on the left hand upper corner and inverted, then the writer declares his affection for the receiver of the letter. When the stamp is in the center at the top, it signifies an affirmative answer to a question, or the question, as the case may be; and when it is at the bottom, or opposite this, it is a negative.

Should the stamp be on the right hand corner, at a right angle, it asks the question if the receiver of the letter loves the sender; while in the left-hand corner means that the writer hates the other. There is a shade of difference between desiring one's acquaintance and friendship, for example: The stamp at the upper corner on the right expresses the former, and on the lower left-hand corner means the latter. The learned in this language request their correspondents to accept their love by placing the stamp on a line with the surname, and the response is made, if the party addressed be engaged, by placing the stamp in the same place, but reversing it. The writer may wish to say farewell to his sweetheart, or vice versa, and does so by placing the stamp straight up and down in the left-hand corner. And so on to the end of the chapter.

THE VOTE FOR JUDGE MATTHEWS.

VALLEY FALLS, Kan.

Please give the list of those Senators who voted "Aye" and those who voted "No" upon the confirmation of the Hon. Stanley Matthews to the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States.

A. C. SHIME.

Answer.—There is a rule of the Senate which reads as follows: "When acting on confidential or executive business, the Chamber shall be cleared of all persons except the Secretary of the Senate, the principal or Executive Clerk, the Sergeant-at-Arms and Doorkeeper, the Assistant Doorkeeper, and such other officers as the presiding officer shall think necessary; and all such shall be sworn to secrecy." Penalties are attached for a violation of the confidence of the Senate, as follows: "Any Senator or officer of the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body, and, if an officer, to dismissal from the service of the Senate, and to punishment for contempt." This will show the reader how it is impossible for the public to know more than was published at the time. It was then understood that there were certain Senators who were in favor of Judge Matthews, and others opposed to him, but the vote in executive session was and is an official secret.

FREE-WILL BAPTISTS.

BAYOU TUNICA, La.

Where and how did the name Free-will Baptist originate?

JAMES M. COLEMAN.

Answer.—Benjamin Randall was the founder of that body of evangelical Christians who are now known as Free-will or Free Baptists. Randall was at first a Congregationalist, but connected himself with the Baptist Church at South Berwick, Me., in 1776, and not long thereafter entered the ministry. He was called to account for preaching a doctrine which some of his brethren believed was not in accord with the teachings of their church. In the year 1780, at the age of 31, he organized at New Durham, N. H., a church holding views similar to his own, and this became the center of the new denomination. Among the tenets of Mr. Randall and his associates was that of the freedom of the will, as essential to man as a subject of moral government, and therefore as inviolable

by the Divine sovereignty, and not to be contravened by any explanation of it. Those who opposed them called them "General Provisioners," "Free-will Baptists," and "Free Baptists," hence the name by which they have been so widely known.

SENATOR HENRY S. LANE.

GREELEY, Col.
Please give a short biographical sketch, including birth and parentage, of the late Senator Henry S. Lane.
H. W. WARD.

Answer.—He was born in Montgomery County, Ky., Feb. 24, 1811, and received a common school education, which was supplemented by training under a tutor. While a resident of his native State he studied law, but removed to Indiana, being admitted to the bar there. When 26 years of age he was elected to the State Legislature, and from 1841 to 1843 was a member of Congress. In the Mexican war he served under General Taylor as a Lieutenant Colonel of Volunteers. In the year 1859 he was elected to the United States Senate to contest the seat of J. D. Bright, but was not admitted to a seat in that body. The first year of the slavery war saw him elected Governor of Indiana, and two days after his inauguration he was a second time elected to the Senate, for the term ending in 1867. He was one of the Senators designated to attend the funeral of General Scott in 1866, and was a delegate to the Chicago convention in 1868. His father was Colonel James H. Lane. For a number of years previous to his death he lived in retirement.

SENATOR CONKLING'S WORK.

BEARDSTOWN, Ill.
Please state what Conkling did for the Republican party during the last campaign? how many speeches he made, and where?
STALWART.

Answer.—Senator Conkling made speeches in New York, Ohio, and Indiana during the great campaign. Probably no other political addresses for many years, if at any time, were ever listened to in this or any country by so many people. His audiences were the leaders of public opinion, and the speeches made were reproduced many times and in different ways during last year and since then. They were published as campaign documents, and hundreds of thousands of copies distributed; they were printed in the principal newspapers of the country of all shades of politics, and the speech-makers in every State and Territory in the Union quoted from, and not unfrequently, reproduced the great speeches of Senator Conkling in Indiana, Ohio, and New York last autumn.

VICE PRESIDENT ARTHUR'S "DISABILITIES."

VALPARAISO, Ind.
Please answer the following questions: What are the political disabilities charged against Mr. Arthur that he cannot become President in case of the death of Mr. Garfield?
READER.

Answer.—It is somewhat remarkable that, over a year after General Arthur was nominated by the National Republican Convention, this question should arise. Late as it is, it may be just as well to say that General Arthur was born at Fairfield, Vt., that he is an American born, and that the National Republican Convention knew

what it was doing when he was placed in nomination. Further, the following from the last clause of the twelfth amendment to the Constitution, decides the question, *after* Vice President Arthur has presided over the Senate as long as he has: "No person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States." There need be no fear in regard to General Arthur on the ground of "disabilities."

ENSILAGE.

CLEVELAND, Ill.
Please give the meaning of the word "Ensilage."
E. J. CANT.

Answer.—Mr. Bailey thus describes it: A Silo is a cistern or vat, air and water-tight on the bottom and sides, with an open top, constructed of masonry or concrete. It may be square, rectangular, round, or oval in shape, with perpendicular sides, used to store in their green state forage crops, such as corn, sorgho, rye, oats, millet, Hungarian grass, clover, and all the grasses. This forage is cut and taken directly from the field, run through a cutter, which cuts it into pieces less than half an inch in length, and trampled down solidly in the Silo, and subjected to heavy and continuous pressure. The structure is the Silo, which may be above ground, or partly or entirely below the surface of the ground. The fodder preserved in Silos is Ensilage.

COUNTY TREASURERS IN ILLINOIS.

LACON, Ill.
Has there been a law passed in this State (Illinois) to prevent a city treasurer from holding the office but for one term? If so, when was it passed, and for what purpose?
E. E. R.

Answer.—The inquiry is probably in reference to the act in force July 1, 1881, fixing the term of office in counties not under township organization. The act provides that "in counties not under township organization, there shall be elected on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1882, and every four years thereafter, a County Treasurer, who shall be ex officio the County Assessor, and who shall receive all fees as Treasurer and Assessor, as is provided by law, and who shall hold his office for four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified; provided, that no person having been once elected County Treasurer under this act shall be eligible to re-election to said office for four years after the expiration of the term for which he shall have been elected."

A RELIGIOUS TEST.

RAVANNA, Mo.
1. Is there anything in the Constitution of the United States of America forbidding a State enacting a law requiring a certain religious test as a qualification to any State or county office? 2. Has any State ever had such a law; if so, what State?
L. F. FARRISH.

Answer.—1. The Constitution provides (amendment one) that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;" and again, in the last article of the Constitution is the following: "The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to

support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." This is all the Constitution says on the subject.

2. The State of Illinois has not now any such law. We know of no State that has had such a law.

FISHING IN LAKE MICHIGAN.

CHICAGO.
Does the direction of the wind affect the fishing in Lake Michigan? If so, what winds are most favorable for perch-fishing at Chicago?
W. B. YOUNG.

Answer.—A veteran angler, intimate with all the points as to local fishing, says that when the wind is blowing northerly or easterly the rod and line may be laid away, and the fisher whistle for a change. Nothing awakens him more thoroughly and so soon sets him to examining his angling outfit than a southwest breeze continued for several hours; then he makes his way to the lake hereabouts, and is rewarded with full strings of the finny tribe. He has no time then to dream over the deep reasons, he only knows that such is the fact.

ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS.

HARLAN, Ind.
How near have explorers been to the north pole?
LEWIS SHARP.

Answer.—Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, who was a member of Dr. Kane's party, reached, in May, 1861, a point, latitude 81 deg. 30 min., beyond which it was impossible to go. Although a number of expeditions have gone to the polar regions since then, that land reached by Hayes is the most northerly ever trod by any explorer up to this time. It is, of course, impossible to tell how far north the missing Jeannette and her party have penetrated, but Hayes is at the head thus far.

"DARK AS EGYPT'S NIGHT."

LAKE MILLS, Iowa.
Explain the quotation, "Dark as Egypt's night." Are the nights darker in Egypt than elsewhere?
ED HENDERSON.

Answer.—The origin of the phrase is found in the tenth chapter of Exodus, the twenty-first, twenty-second, and twenty-third verses: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness that may be felt. And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days; They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days; but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

SCRIPTURE LESSONS.

KENNEY, Ill.
1. Please tell us if John the Baptist was a descendant of the Jews. 2. How many miracles did Christ perform, and in what chapters can they be found?
W. H. B.

Answer.—1. John the Baptist was a Jew of the Jews, being of a priestly family on both sides. Zacharias was a priest of the course of Abiah, and Elizabeth was of the daughters of Aaron. 2. The devout reader can find the miracles wrought by the Master recorded in the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; there are some thirty-seven recorded, beginning with the conception and ending with the ascension. Luke

records nine, John seven, Mark five, and Matthew sixteen.

A PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION.

PANNEMIN, Ill.
Should President Garfield live, yet be unable to attend to the duties of his office, would not the Vice President take the oath and enter upon the duties of President? Of course Arthur would be President. Now, at the expiration of five or six months President Garfield is able to perform the duties of his office, who then would be President? Does the Constitution make any provision for such a case? Give your readers what light you can on the subject.
R. F. L.

Answer.—The fifth clause of article 1 of the Constitution provides that "in case of the removal of the President from office, of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or disability both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected."

HOUSE OF LORDS.

BUCKLEY, Ill.
Please inform me of the number of members in the House of Lords and House of Commons of Great Britain.
B. O. HANBY.

Answer.—The House of Lords, in the last session of 1880, consisted of 537 members, who hold their seats by virtue of hereditary right, by creation of the sovereign, by virtue of office as the English bishops, by election for life, and by election for duration of Parliament, the Scottish peers. In the same session the House of Commons numbered 652 members, composed of members from cities, boroughs, and universities.

WEALTHIEST MAN—THE CRESCENT CITY.

BROOKLYN, Mo.
1. Who is the wealthiest person in the United States, and how much is he worth? 2. Why is New Orleans sometimes called the "Crescent City"?
LEE P. KING.

Answer.—1. Wm. H. Vanderbilt is at the head of the list. His wealth is placed at about \$120,000,000. 2. The "Crescent City" is a popular name for the city of New Orleans, because the older portion of it is built around the convex side of a bend of the Mississippi River.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

RICHMONDVILLE, Mich.
The sad news that President Garfield had been shot calls to mind the shooting of our great President, Lincoln, and a dispute arose as to how he was shot. Some say he was shot from the back; others say not. Please tell us about it.
P. H. HALLER.

Answer.—We quote from Anderson, the historian, who thus writes on the subject: "As the President sat in his box in Ford's Theater, with his wife and friends, the assassin stealthily approached, entered the box, and shot his victim in the back of the head."

NECESSARY TO NOMINATE.

MARYLAND, Ogle Co., Ill.
What was necessary to a choice at the National Republican Convention at Chicago last year, a majority of the whole or a two-thirds vote?
WM. T. WILSON.

Answer.—A majority was necessary to nominate.

CHARLES J. GUITEAU.

RIPLEY, Ill.
What is the correct pronunciation of the name of the

crazy, crack-brained individual who attempted to assassinate America's best President? Please answer and settle a dispute. AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The assassin, when a resident of this city, pronounced his name as follows: Git-to, with the accent on the first syllable.

BOONE'S BURIAL PLACE.

EDGAR, III.

where was Daniel Boone buried?

FRANK LONG.

Answer.—The remains of Daniel Boone and his wife were exhumed in 1845 and deposited with appropriate ceremonies in the cemetery of Frankfort, Ky.

AUTHORS.

FAYETTE, Iowa.

Who are the authors of the following: "Enoch Arden," "Kenilworth," and "Childe Harold?"

A READER.

Answer.—Tennyson wrote "Enoch Arden," Sir Walter Scott "Kenilworth," and Lord Byron "Childe Harold."

THE HAMBURG MASSACRE.

NEW HAVEN, Ind.

What was the "Hamburg massacre" with which Butler was connected?

Mrs. E. V. F.

Answer.—The Hamburg affair was as wanton a wholesale murder as ever disgraced the "chivalry" of South Carolina and Georgia. Hamburg is a town on the Savannah, in South Carolina, opposite Augusta, in the State of Georgia. The trouble arose by the course taken by two scions of "chivalry" as they were driving through the streets of Hamburg. These men were named Thomas Butler and Henry Gettsen; "Hamburg" Butler defended his namesake subsequently. It was July 4, 1876, and a company of colored militia were drilling in the streets of Hamburg. Butler and Gettsen rode up and demanded that the militia break ranks to allow them to pass. These young men went their way; had time to compose themselves and take the wise course, but three days after complained they were "obstructed in the street by a gang of niggers." They made complaint to Rivers, a Justice, who was also a general officer of militia, and were loud in their demands that the matter be explained as to whether "nigger militia" had the right to block up the road. Then there was a sort of examination before Rivers, and General M. C. Butler—who was christened "Hamburg"—appeared for Thomas Butler. "Hamburg" Butler, when Rivers was waiting to hear the case, ordered him (Rivers) to proceed, and "that this thing must stop; that the negroes must give up their arms at once, and that twenty good citizens would go security that the arms would be turned over to the Governor." Rivers asked Butler if he (Butler) would see that the town was protected during the night in case the arms were given up, and Butler promised to do so. Rivers then went to Adams, who commanded the company, and endeavored to persuade him to give up the arms the militia had. In the Council Chamber, Butler had a conference with the Mayor and the colored leaders, and told the negroes "they must give up their arms, and that they had no business with arms;" he said further that he would be satisfied with an apology from Adams. But

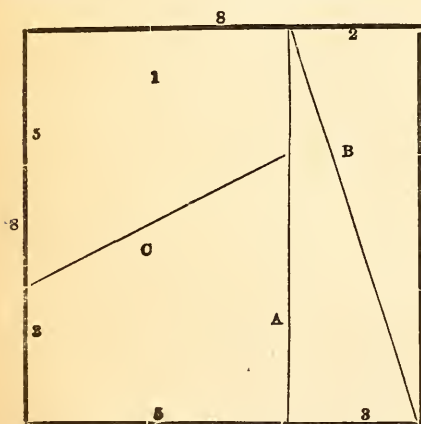
nothing was decided on, the colored men knowing the character—or want of character—of the persons with whom they were dealing. Meanwhile a number of ex-rebels had assembled in town, and the Georgia border historian adds: "Matters began to look squally." Butler then rode over from Hamburg, S. C., to Augusta, Ga., and told several young men that "he might need their services in Hamburg during the afternoon;" then he returned to Hamburg. Butler met Rivers, after crossing the bridge, and the latter stated that he would make one more effort to get the negroes to give up their arms. There were the thirty odd colored militia, with arms belonging to the State; ordered by irresponsible persons to surrender their arms; their avowed enemies assembled in crowds, and an ex-rebel General notifying others at Augusta—another State—to join him at Hamburg, as he "might need their services." That was the condition of affairs. Says the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel*, published in a city where there are no papers but those of Democratic hue: "In the meantime the news of the troubles spread to Augusta and caused much excitement. A large number of young men hastily procured arms and ammunition, and hastened to the scene." That was rare sport—the young "chivalry" of Georgia, armed, crossing from Georgia to invade the State rights sovereign soil of South Carolina for a "nigger hunt," such as the Mississippi neighbors of Jeff Davis were accustomed to indulge in. The same newspaper historian quoted above says that "many others waited at the foot of the bridge anxiously awaiting the result. By 7 o'clock there was a large crowd at that point." The same paper, a Southern one, bear in mind, says of General Butler's conduct: "Upon learning the result of Rivers' efforts, General Butler determined to accomplish by force that which could not be done by peaceable demands. The negroes had intrenched themselves in a large brick structure, known as Sibley's building, on a corner, and defied the whites. The latter surrounded the house, and at 7:30 o'clock opened fire upon it. This was returned by the negroes, and a constant fusillade was kept up for over two hours." A young white man named Merriwether was shot and killed by colored men, while the deceased and a companion, partially under cover, were firing at the negroes. Then several men were sent to Augusta for a piece of artillery, and this was obtained and transferred to Hamburg as speedily as possible; the piece was stationed on the river bank, a short distance from the house where the colored men had taken up their position, and a fire was opened on the place with canister. Four rounds were fired, and "had the effect of completely silencing the negroes. During the evening eight negroes were captured, two of them members of the company." There were twenty-nine prisoners in all. "Hamburg" Butler pleads the excuse that he ordered that the prisoners be conveyed to Aiken, and lodged in jail there, but that his orders were disobeyed.

What is the record? The Southern paper quoted above says that about "2 o'clock, or a little before, the roll of prisoners was called, and those who were considered ringleaders of the disturbing element in the county were carried to a cornfield near the river and turned loose. As they ran, they were fired upon and killed. One of the men shot was named Attaway, a county commissioner and a member of the Legislature. The prisoners died almost without a groan." And in regard to others: "As the remainder of the prisoners were turned loose they were fired into, but it is not known whether any of them were killed or not." What were the results? Ten negroes killed in cold blood, and one white man shot while armed and firing at the negroes. The chivalrous whites numbered over 200, recruited from two States, armed and supported by a piece of artillery, imported into South Carolina from Georgia. This is the plain, brief story of the butchery, taken from Augusta Democratic papers, and with everything to tone it down and make the horrid affair less horrible.

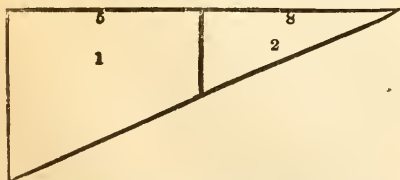
A MATHEMATICAL PUZZLE.

VALPARAISO, Ind.

Please explain how the discrepancy in the following occurs:



The above represents a board 8 inches square. I divided the board as follows: Cutting off 3 inches on the line marked A, then cut the piece diagonally on the line marked B; then cut the other piece, 3 inches on the right hand and 3 inches on the left, as shown in the diagram; then I take the piece marked 1, and join it to the piece marked 2, as shown below:



The remaining two pieces will make a similar board, and the two, when placed together, make an oblong 5 inches by 13 inches, containing 65 square inches. Where and how do I gain the one square inch?

JOHN B. HAWKINS.

Answer.—We usually prefer to have our friends

make the discoveries of the how and the why of such mathematical questions themselves. In this instance, however, we believe the answer will be of general interest, and therefore give space to the following which has been kindly furnished us by Professor David Kirk, of Bloomer, Wis., who is too well known to the educational world to need an introduction to our readers. Professor Kirk writes: A restatement of the question may be of service. 1. We form a square, eight inches on a side. 2. We divide this square into two rectangles, one 3 inches by 8, the other 5 inches by 8. 3. We divide the smaller rectangle into two equal triangles, and the large rectangle into two equal trapezoids. 4. We place each of the triangles on a trapezoid, in such a way as to form what appear to be large triangles. 5. We put the two so-called triangles together, forming what appears to be an oblong—or rectangle—5 inches by 13. Of course there is a fallacy somewhere, because a surface of sixty-four inches can neither be increased nor diminished by a mere change of form. The fallacy is in the fourth step, where we place a right-angled triangle whose base is three inches on a right-angled trapezoid whose shortest side is 3 inches, and assume that the resulting figure will be a perfect triangle. The figure which we thus form is 13 inches long, but if we form a triangle by prolonging the convergent sides of one of the trapezoids until they meet, said triangle will be only $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. It is plain from this that the hypotenuse of the triangle, which we place on a trapezoid, does not form a straight line with the slanting side of the trapezoid, though it may seem to form a straight line. Of course, as the two figures which we put together to form the last figure are not triangles, but four-sided figures, the last figure is not a rectangle, and its area cannot be found by multiplying 5 by 13.

HAY-FEVER.

CENTRALIA.

I should like to have explained what hay-fever is.

FARMER'S WIFE.

Answer.—Hay-fever is variously called hay-asthma, hay-cold, and fever. The common name would imply that the cause was contained in emanations from hay. It has been learned, however, that fresh or newly mown hay causes the affection in some persons, although other emanations from the vegetable kingdom also give rise to it. The opinion is held by many medical authorities that it is probable that different persons are affected by the products of different kinds of vegetation, diffused through the atmosphere. The complaint is described as follows: The local symptoms denote subacute inflammation of the nostrils, and of the bronchial mucous membrane, together with irritability of the eyes, and, in a certain proportion of cases, bronchial spasm or asthma; more, or less fever and other evidences of constitutional disturbance accompany the affection. According to some authorities there are two forms: the first is often called the rose cold, or June

sold, beginning the latter part of May or early in June, and continuing into July; the other, autumnal catarrh, which begins usually the third or fourth week of August, and ends with September or October. Persons suffering from it should seek a change of climate, endeavoring to get into regions that have an altitude of over 300 feet; sea or lake voyages are said to be beneficial.

NATIVE AND FOREIGN BORN POPULATION.

CHICAGO.

We have had a discussion as to the number of native and foreign-born persons in the United States, and leave it to you to decide.

DISPUTANTS.

Answer.—The Census Bureau has issued advance sheets of its reports by which we are enabled to give the following figures in regard to the nationalities of our population. The list includes all the States and Territories, and is as follows:

State.	Native.	Foreign.
Alabama.....	1,253,121	9,673
Arizona.....	24,419	16,522
Arkansas.....	792,269	10,295
California.....	572,006	292,680
Colorado.....	154,869	39,780
Connecticut.....	492,879	129,804
Dakota.....	83,387	51,793
Delaware.....	137,182	9,472
District of Columbia..	160,523	17,115
Florida.....	257,631	9,720
Georgia.....	1,528,733	10,315
Idaho.....	22,629	9,982
Illinois.....	2,495,177	583,592
Indiana.....	1,834,597	143,765
Iowa.....	1,363,132	261,488
Kansas.....	886,261	109,795
Kentucky.....	1,589,237	59,471
Louisiana.....	885,964	54,139
Maine.....	590,076	58,869
Maryland.....	851,984	82,648
Massachusetts.....	1,339,919	443,093
Michigan.....	1,247,985	388,346
Minnesota.....	513,107	267,699
Mississippi.....	1,122,424	9,168
Missouri.....	1,957,564	211,240
Montana.....	27,642	11,515
Nebraska.....	355,043	97,390
Nevada.....	36,623	75,642
New Hampshire.....	300,961	46,923
New Jersey.....	909,398	221,585
New Mexico.....	108,408	9,932
New York.....	3,872,371	1,211,438
North Carolina.....	1,396,368	3,679
Ohio.....	2,803,496	394,743
Oregon.....	144,327	30,440
Pennsylvania.....	3,695,253	587,533
Rhode Island.....	202,598	73,930
South Carolina.....	987,981	7,641
Tennessee.....	1,525,881	16,582
Texas.....	1,478,058	114,516
Utah.....	99,974	43,932
Vermont.....	291,340	40,946
Virginia.....	1,498,139	14,667
Washington.....	59,259	15,861
West Virginia.....	600,214	18,229
Wisconsin.....	910,063	405,417
Wyoming.....	14,943	5,845
Total.....	43,475,506	6,677,360

PAUL JONES.

Please give a short sketch of the life of Paul Jones, of naval fame.

Ivy, Lyon Co., Kan.
CHARLES H. RICHARD.

Answer.—John Paul Jones was born in the southwestern part of Scotland, July 6, 1747. His name was John Paul, the Jones having been added by him in after life. When 12 years old he was apprenticed to a merchant of Whitehaven, and sailed on his first voyage to Virginia. There his elder brother was established

as a planter. Paul was for a time engaged in the slave trade, but quitted it in disgust, and made voyages to the West Indies, which it was said he made very profitable. He was in Virginia when the Revolutionary war began, and in December, 1775, entered the colonial navy as a lieutenant. He, in a cruise in the sloop Providence, of six weeks duration, made sixteen prizes. The year following he was made a captain, and in 1776 and 1777 took many prizes, and broke up the fishing at Cape Breton. He sailed for Scotland, and made a bold attack on Whitehaven; he tried to capture the Earl of Selkirk, in order to bring about an exchange of prisoners, but the Earl was absent, and the crew plundered the house of silver plate, which, however, was afterward restored to Lady Selkirk by Paul, who purchased it from the crew. His exploits were continued, one being the capture of the Drake, a sloop-of-war superior to his Ranger in force. He tried to obtain a better command, and finally secured the ship Duras, which name he changed to Bon Homme Richard, and finally, Aug. 14, 1779, sailed from Lorient, having under his command a squadron of five ships; he had captured or destroyed by the middle of September some twenty-six vessels. In the terrific encounter, Sept. 23, of the Bon Homme Richard with the British ship Serapis the latter was captured, but the Richard had to be abandoned, and she soon after sunk. When Jones arrived in France with his prize, he was received with great honor, a sword was presented to him by Louis XVI., and when he came to the United States in 1781, Congress voted him a gold medal and Washington addressed him a highly complimentary letter. After a time he went to Paris, where he was invited into the Russian service with the rank of rear admiral, but was disappointed at not receiving the command of the Black Sea fleet; he quarreled with the admiral, fell into disfavor at court, owing to intrigues; was retired from the service, with a pension that was never paid, and died at Paris, neglected and in poverty.

JAMES G. BLAINE.

SUMMIT, Pike Co., Miss.

1. Please give a short sketch of the Hon. James G. Blaine. 2. Did he vote for or against the civil rights bill?

READER.

Answer.—Secretary Blaine was born in Washington County, Pa., Jan. 31, 1830, and graduated at Washington College in that State. He began his professional career as a journalist, and, reversing Greeley's advice, went East, settling in Maine, where he edited the *Portland Advertiser* and the *Kennebec Journal*. From the year 1859 to 1862 he was a member of the Maine Legislature, and the latter two years of his service there his abilities pushed him to the front, and he was Speaker of the House. He was elected to and served successively in the Thirty-eighth, Thirty-ninth, Fortieth, Forty-first, Forty-second, and Forty-third Congresses, and was Speaker of the House of Representatives during the last named three; and he was re-

elected to the Forty-fourth Congress. On the resignation of the Hon. Lot M. Morrill, who became Secretary of the Treasury, he was elected to the Senate, and was elected for the ensuing term which expires in 1883. Senator Blaine was appointed Secretary of State by President Garfield, which he now holds. 2. When the vote was taken on the civil rights bill in 1872, Secretary Blaine was Speaker of the House.

COUNTIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

ANNAN, Henry Co., Ill.
Please give the number of counties in the United States by States. J. R. BATTEN.

Answer.—By the latest statement which we have at hand we find the following to be the number of counties in every State:

Alabama.....	67	Missouri.....	115
Arkansas.....	74	Nebraska.....	63
California.....	52	Nevada.....	14
Colorado.....	31	New Hampshire... 10	
Connecticut.....	8	New Jersey.....	21
Delaware.....	3	New York.....	60
Florida.....	39	North Carolina... 96	
Georgia.....	137	Ohio.....	88
Illinois.....	102	Oregon.....	23
Indiana.....	92	Pennsylvania..... 67	
Iowa.....	99	Rhode Island..... 5	
Kansas.....	80	South Carolina... 33	
Kentucky.....	117	Tennessee.....	94
Louisiana.....	58	Texas.....	161
Maine.....	16	Vermont.....	14
Maryland.....	24	Virginia.....	112
Massachusetts... 14		West Virginia... 54	
Michigan.....	77	Wisconsin.....	62
Minnesota.....	75		
Mississippi.....	75	Total.....	2,332

VOTE IN 1868 AND 1872.

WILTON, Iowa.
Please give the vote for President in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Iowa, for 1868, and 1872. E. M. WEAVER.

Answer.—The vote was as follows, according to the Librarian of Congress:

States.	1868.		1872.	
	Grant.	Seymour.	Grant.	Greeley.
New York.....	419,883	429,883	440,736	387,281
New Jersey.....	80,131	83,001	91,656	76,456
Pennsylvania.....	342,280	313,382	349,589	212,041
Ohio.....	280,223	238,606	281,852	244,321
Illinois.....	250,303	199,143	241,944	184,938
Iowa.....	120,399	74,040	131,566	71,196

There was a light scattering vote in 1872. In New York O'Connor received 1,451, and Black (temperance) 201; New Jersey gave O'Connor 630, and Pennsylvania cast 1,630 for Black, while Ohio counted 1,163 for O'Connor and 2,100 for Black; Illinois gave O'Connor 3,058, to 2,221 from Iowa.

THE HOUSE OF HANOVER.

VINTON, Iowa.
1. Why is it that the four Georges, William, and Victoria, of England, are called of the House of Hanover, when their last name is Guelph? 2. Was Queen Victoria's husband her cousin; if so, whose son was he, and what was his name? IDA M. WEAN.

Answer.—1. The name Guelph, or as it is sometimes written, Guelf, was that of an illustrious family which long occupied a large place in European politics. As one writer remarks, "To give a full account of the party quarrels of Guelf and Ghibellin would be to write the history of mediæval Italy." It was transplanted from Italy to Germany in the eleventh century, where it became the ruling race for several centuries. The family name still continues in two lines, of Brunswick, the royal one in Britain, and the ducal one in Germany. The father of George I.

was Elector of Hanover. 2. Queen Victoria was married to her Cousin, Prince Albert, son of Duke Ernest I. of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha and Princess Louise of Saxe-Altenburg.

LAFAYETTE S. FOSTER

STUART, IOWA.
Please give a history of the life of the Hon. L. S. Foster, of Connecticut? INQUIRER.

Answer.—Judge Foster was born at Franklin, New London County, Conn., Nov. 22, 1806. He was educated at Brown University, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1831. For many years he was a member of the General Assembly of his native State, and was Speaker of the body during three sessions. He was Mayor of Norwich for two years, and in 1850 received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Brown University. Among the other offices he held was that of United States Senator from 1855 to 1867, two terms, and at the extra session of the Senate, in 1865, he was chosen President pro tem, and when Johnson became President at the death of President Lincoln, he was acting Vice President of the United States. In 1869 he was elected Professor of Law in Yale College, and the year following to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of Connecticut. Judge Foster traces his ancestry direct to Miles Standish.

ROBES OF OFFICE.

OAKFIELD, WIS.
I saw in the description of the inauguration ceremonies that the Supreme Court Judges are spoken of as "in their robes." Please tell us what these robes are, and why they are differently dressed from other citizens. JOSIE M. BISHOP.

Answer.—The robes are worn by the Justices of the Supreme Court on all state or, so to speak, official occasions. The garment is a long black robe, enveloping the person from the shoulders to the feet. It is made full, with full sleeves and full body, and somewhat resembles the robe worn by the clergymen of some churches, except, perhaps, it has less elaboration about the shoulders. The custom of wearing these robes of office was borrowed from our cousins across the sea, where such garments are worn almost universally by public personages in church and state.

OHIO AND IOWA.

WEST LIBERTY, IOWA.
Please state how Ohio and Iowa came to receive their names, and by whom they were named. J. D. MYERS.

Answer.—Ohio, according to the Hon. E. M. Haines, in Blanchard's "Discovery and Conquest of the Northwest," is from the Iroquois, and means "beautiful—how beautiful," which corresponds with the name the French gave it, "La Belle Riviere." Iowa derives its name, which is said to mean "the beautiful land" in the language of the Indians, from the river so called. When States are admitted in the Union, they receive their names.

ST. LOUIS BRIDGE—UNION PACIFIC.

WILBER, Neb.
1. What was the date of the ceremonies at the opening of the great bridge at St. Louis? 2. Also the time when the two divisions of the Union Pacific Railroad were connected by the golden spike? M. M. I.

Answer.—1. The St. Louis bridge was opened

July 4, 1874. 2. The last spike was driven in at Promontory, exactly 1,085 4-5 miles west from Omaha, on May 10, 1869. The last tie, eight feet long, eight inches wide, and six inches thick, was of California larch, finely polished, and ornamented with a silver escutcheon, bearing this inscription: "The last tie laid on the Pacific Railroad, May 10, 1869." Then followed the names of the directors and officers of the Central Pacific and of the presenter of the tie. There were about 1,100 persons present when the continent was thus united.

PUTNAM AND THE WOLF.

PUTNAM, ILL.
Please give a short account of Putnam and the wolf.
A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Putnam was noted even as a boy for his bravery and strength. When he had grown to man's estate he bought a farm in Pomfret, Conn., and settled there. He was about 25 years old when he had the encounter with the she wolf that gave him a name for personal courage. The animal had for several years been a terror to the neighborhood, preying on the flocks and herds of the people in that part of the country. Putnam, on discovering her den, entered it alone, creeping into the narrow opening, and shot and killed her as she came to meet and attack him. The news of this exploit spread far and wide, until it gave Putnam a national fame, and has gone into history.

"PETROLEUM V. NASBY."

DONOLA, ILL.
Please let us know something about Nasby.
J. R. D.

Answer.—D. R. Locke, who is so well known under the nom de plume of "Petroleum V. Nasby," is a native of the Empire State, having been born at Vestal, in Broome County, Sept 20, 1833. He learned printing in the office of a newspaper, and edited and published papers at Mansfield, Bucyrus, Findlay, in Ohio, and elsewhere, and then he became editor of the Toledo Blade. His "Nasby" letters were begun away back in 1860, several series of which have been published in book form. He has also written many political pamphlets, and is a playwright, his "Widow Bedott" having been played in most of the leading cities of the country.

CASTLE GARDEN.

HOBICON, WIS.
Please state whether or not Castle Garden, in New York City, was ever wholly or partially destroyed by fire, and if so, when?
SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Castle Garden is an historic spot. It was originally a fort, and afterward was transformed into a summer garden, and in that way derived the name it now bears. Half a century ago it was used for civil and military displays and receptions. In 1824 Lafayette revisited America, and a grand ball was given in his honor at Castle Garden, and President Jackson in 1832 and President Tyler in 1843 were publicly received there. Later it became a concert hall, and there Jenny Lind made her first appearance in this country. In 1855 the immigrant depot was established within its walls. The present build-

ing at Castle Garden was erected after the partial destruction by fire of the original structure in 1876.

MICHAEL FARADAY.

KIRKWOOD, ILL.
Please give a short sketch of Michael Faraday. Was he the author of any scientific works?
T. D.

Answer.—Faraday was born at Stoke Newington, London, Sept. 22, 1791, and died Aug. 25, 1867. His father was a blacksmith, and his early education largely what he himself made it. When the future chemist and natural philosopher was 13, he became the errand boy to a bookbinder whose place was near his father's. In 1805 he was apprenticed to the bookbinder, and such was his worth at that age that "no premium was given." His spare hours were devoted to the study of the books he bound, and he was enabled, by the kindness of his employer and the aid of his brother, a sturdy smith, to attend evening lectures on natural philosophy, and he occupied himself with electrical experiments. When his apprenticeship was over he worked for a time at his trade as a journeyman. Sir Humphrey Davy, then newly knighted, was about that time lecturing at the Royal Institution, and these lectures he was able to attend through a gentleman who heard of his tastes. Sir Humphrey in 1813 engaged Faraday at weekly wages, and then he traveled with the former on the continent for a time. On his return he became connected with the City Philosophical Society where he delivered seven lectures and a second series afterward. Encouraged by Davy, he made his first published contributions to science. After other and varied and developing work in science, he married Miss Sarah Barnard, and lived at the Royal Institution until 1858, when they were presented with a house by the Queen in Hampton Court. He succeeded in making, on Christmas morning, 1821, a magnetic needle rotate around a wire, carrying an electric current. Experiment followed experiment, until, in 1824, Faraday was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1831 he made his great discovery of magneto-electric induction, opening thereby a vast and novel electrical domain. His first work on "Chemical Manipulation" was published two years prior to this. From 1836 to 1838 his researches in frictional electricity occupied his attention. Overwork compelled him to discontinue his great labors, and he was prohibited from work for two years, that is 1840 and 1841. On his return to his investigations, he finally made the discovery which he entitled "the magnetization of light," followed by the discovery of diamagnetism. Says Tyndall: "To these discoveries succeed his investigations in the magnetism of gases, his elaborate papers on atmospheric magnetism, his speculations on the nature of matter and force, and his researches on 'lines of magnetic force, their definite character, and their distribution within a magnet and through space'—inquiries marked by profound insight and illustrated with refined skill." He is pronounced the greatest experi-

mental philosopher that the world has ever seen. He was in religion a Sandemanian, a sect that originally separated from the Presbyterians in Scotland. He was an honorary member of no fewer than seventy-two societies in all parts of the world, and delivered many lectures and published many articles on scientific subjects.

FIRE-ARMS IN ILLINOIS.

WOODHULL, Ill.
Has there been a law recently passed regulating the sale of fire-arms in the State of Illinois? If so, what is it, and when does it go into effect? S. W. HOWELL.

Answer.—The law in regard to deadly weapons, approved April 16, 1881, is to the effect that all persons dealing in pistols, revolvers, derringers, bowie knives, dirks, or other deadly weapons of like character, at retail, within this State, shall keep a register of all such weapons sold or given away by them. This register, which shall be kept open for the inspection of the public, and all persons who may wish to examine the same, shall contain the date of the sale or gift, the name and age of the person to whom the weapon was sold or given, the price, and the purpose for which it was purchased or obtained. A failure to keep the register, or keeping a false one, shall be a misdemeanor, and shall subject the offender to a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$200. Whoever, not being the father, guardian, or employer of a minor, by himself or agent, shall sell, give, loan, hire, or barter, or shall offer to sell, give, loan, hire, or barter to any minor within this State, any weapon above named, or other deadly weapon of like character, capable of being secreted upon the person, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and the fine shall be the same as that above named. The fourth section of the law provides, with a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$200, that "whoever shall carry a concealed weapon upon or about his person of the character in this act specified (fire-arms and slung-shots, metallic knuckles, etc.), or razor as a weapon, or whoever in a threatening or boisterous manner shall display or flourish any deadly weapon, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor," etc. This section does not, however, apply to sheriffs, coroners, constables, policemen, or other peace officers, while engaged in the discharge of their official duties, or any persons summoned by such officers to assist in making arrest or preserving the peace.

QUEEN BOADICEA—CONSTANTINE.

MULVANE, Kan.
1. Was there a battle near London, A. D. 81, in which 80,000 Britons were killed? 2. Was Constantine the Great the first Christian emperor? R. A. HALL.

Answer.—1. Queen Boadicea was at the head of the Iceni, a British tribe inhabiting the district which is now divided into the counties of Cambridge, Suffolk, Norfolk, and Hertford. Her husband, the King of the Iceni, died, and left the Emperor Nero and his two daughters heirs to his wealth, which is said to have been vast. The Romans, however, immediately took possession of the kingdom, and the Queen was treated with indignity, being publicly scourged, and

her daughters given over to the savage slaves of Rome. After many troubles, Boadicea raised an army, attacked the Roman colony of London, and burned the city, and it is said put to death these and in neighboring places not fewer than 70,000 Roman citizens and subjects. The Queen was in command of about 120,000 soldiers, which were increased to 230,000, according to some writers. A battle ensued between the Britons and the Roman soldiers under Sentonius Paulinus, the Governor, and the former were defeated. Some say that 80,000 Britons were butchered in one day. The battle occurred A. D. 61 or 62. Boadicea, when her forces were defeated, took poison. 2. Constantine favored and protected Christianity, though he was baptized on his death-bed. As one writer says: "He was at best only half heathen, half Christian." It has been said he was the "first Christian Emperor."

CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM.

LIMA, Ill.
Please give an explanation of the civil service, or what is meant by civil-service reform.

GEO. SMITH.

Answer.—General Grant took the initiative in the reform of the civil service, and to him is due the credit, so often claimed by reputed reformers and brevet patriots, of taking the first direct steps in this interest. In his second annual message, Dec. 5, 1870, he said: "Always favoring practical reform, I respectfully call your attention to one abuse of long standing which I would like to see remedied by this Congress: it is a reform in the civil service of the country." The civil-service reform bill provided that honesty, efficiency, and fidelity, and not party zeal, should be the test in making appointments in the civil service. It was also provided that soldiers of the Union and members of their families should have the preference, all other things being equal. In Great Britain the general designations of civil servants are commissioners, secretaries, and clerks; nearly all enter the service as members of the last-named class, and rise chiefly by seniority, about as officers in our army are advanced, and in old age they are pensioned. For about twenty-five years the present system has existed in Great Britain; persons applying for positions to enter the service are examined; if they fail, they are often given a second and even a third trial; when the candidate has received a certificate, he enters one of the public offices, and goes through a probation of six months, and if successful, he then becomes a clerk with a definite salary.

DR. BONAR.

MT. PLEASANT, Wis.
Please give a sketch of the life of Horatius Bonar, D. D., and are his poems published in book form?

A. A. MCKENNEY.

Answer.—Dr. Bonar was born at Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1808, and is now perhaps best known for his poems. He was educated first at the High School, and afterward at the University of Edinburgh. In 1837 he was settled as pastor of the North Church, at Kelso, where his literary labors began. For a time he edited a journal of

the church, and commenced the issue of the "Kelso Tracts." In 1846 he published "Truth and Error," and later became known as a sacred lyric poet of great merit. His "Hymns of Faith and Hope" are well known and highly esteemed; they were published in 1856, and several years later a second series appeared. In 1856 Dr. Bonar visited the Holy Land, and made a journey through the desert of Sinai, which led him to publish on his return "The Desert of Sinai" and "The Land of Promise." He has been editor of the *Christian Treasury* and has led a very useful, helpful life.

GENERAL SEDGWICK—SPOTTSYLVANIA.

LOCUST HILL, Mo.
1. What was the date of the death of Major General Sedgwick? 2. Also, the date of the battle of Spottsylvania, and how many days it lasted? A. J. G.

Answer.—General John Sedgwick was killed at Spottsylvania, May 9, 1864. 2. The battles of the Wilderness, the great series of engagements between General Grant and General Lee, occurred during May, 1864. The battle of Spottsylvania Court House was fought May 10 and 12. It was on May 11 that General Grant sent his famous dispatch to the War Department, closing with the words, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer."

NIAGARA FALLS.

UNION MILLS, Ind.
When was the Niagara Falls discovered, and by whom? C. D. CHIPMAN.

Answer.—It is probable that the fearless Franciscan monks and the adventurous fur-traders of France had often seen the great falls, but the first description, with a sketch, was made by Father Hennepin in 1678. He gave them a height of 600 feet. In 1687 the Baron La Hontan visited the falls, and reported them to be 700 or 800 feet high, and a mile and a half wide. In 1678 LaSalle entered the river with sixteen men, and in 1679 sailed from above the falls in the first vessel on the great lakes. This is the view most generally accepted.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

CHICAGO.
1. Please state the highest amount of our national debt, at the close of the rebellion, or at any time since. 2. Also, the largest amount of the national debt of England at any time. T. J. DENNIS.

Answer.—1. In the history of the Nation the debt was smallest in 1835, when it was \$37,513.05. It was largest in 1866, when it was \$2,773,236,173.69. These figures show the condition of the debt at the end of the fiscal years indicated. 2. Martin gives the total funded and unfunded debt of Great Britain Feb. 1, 1817, when the English and Irish Exchequers were consolidated as £840,850,491; or, in American money \$4,204,252,455, to which may be added for interest and management £32,038,191, making a grand total of \$4,364,443,410.

THE MUSES.

OAKFIELD, Iowa.
1. Please tell us something about the nine Muses, their names, and who teach presides over. 2. In what State is Andersonville in, the rebel prison? EUGENE NOON.

Answer.—1. The Muses were: Olio, the muse of history; Euterpe, of lyric poetry; Thalia, of comedy; Melpomene, of tragedy; Terpsichore, of

choral dance and song; Erato, of erotic poetry; Polyhymnia, of the sublime hymn; Urania, of astronomy; and Calliope, of epic poetry. 2. Andersonville, the site of the horrible prison-pen where the Union boys were huddled together and where they died on account of the savage treatment of the supporters of slavery, is in Sumter County, in the State of Georgia.

WHEN THE DAY BEGINS.

ARMADA, Mich.
When was the reckoning of the day from midnight to midnight adopted in the Christian Church, instead of from sunrise to sunset, as in ancient time? D. A. W.

Answer.—The Romans reckoned the day from midnight to midnight, as did also the ancient Egyptians, while the Hebrews, Athenians, and others reckoned it from sunset to sunset. Hipparchus, the astronomer, who lived during the second century before Christ, reckoned the twenty-four hours from midnight to midnight. It was therefore easy for Rome to graft this upon the Christian system. At the present day even among civilized and Christian peoples, the day is sometimes held to begin with sunrise.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

SMITHVILLE, Ill.
Who served as Vice President under John Tyler and Andrew Johnson? A. READER.

Answer.—Under Tyler were Samuel L. Southard, of New Jersey, and Willie P. Mangum, of North Carolina, who were Presidents of the Senate and Acting Vice Presidents; under Johnson were La Fayette S. Foster, of Connecticut, and Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio.

THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE.

STONE FORT.
Was the Grand Duke Constantine a relative of the late Czar of Russia? J. R. YOUNGBLOOD.

Answer.—The Grand Duke Constantine was a brother of Alexander II, the late Czar, and the young Grand Duke Constantine was his son, and a cousin of the reigning Czar. The young man is the person who figured in several scandals.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND OTHERWISE.

FAIRMONT, Neb.
1. Please state what the peninsula of Denmark is sometimes called? 2. Of Spain? 3. Why was Roumania separated from Turkey? H. A.

Answer.—1. Jutland. 2. The Pyrenean or Iberian peninsula. 3. The representatives of the people, assembled at Bucharest, proclaimed Roumania's independence from Turkey May 21, 1877, which was confirmed by the Congress of Berlin, signed July 13, 1878.

OUR TEN LARGEST CITIES.

HUDSON, N. Y.
Please give the names and population of the ten largest cities in the United States according to the last census. WM. STANTON.

Answer.—The Census Bureau returns show the following:

New York.....	1,206,590	St. Louis.....	350,522
Philadelphia..	846,984	Baltimore.....	332,190
Brooklyn.....	566,689	Cincinnati..	255,708
Chicago.....	503,304	San Francisco..	233,956
Boston.....	362,535	New Orleans....	216,140

NOVA ZEMBLA.

CRESCO, Iowa.
To what country does Zova Zembla belong, and what kind of government and how many inhabitants has it? WESLEY GAGE.

Answer.—The territory belongs to Russia, and is subject to the government of Archangel. The

islands composing the group are uninhabited, but are visited during the summer by whalers and hunters of bear and reindeer.

WABASH RIVER SOURCE.

BATTLE GROUND, Ind.
Please inform me of the name of the lake in which the Wabash River rises. FLORA.

Answer.—The Grand Canal Reservoir, a lake of considerable size, most of which is in Mercer County, Ohio, may be said to be the source of the Wabash.

GENERAL WADE HAMPTON—TECUMSEH.

QUINCY, Iowa.
1. Who was the General Wade Hampton of the war of 1812? 2. Was Tecumseh a commissioned officer in the British army? LOUIS WILLIAMS.

Answer.—1. He was the grandfather of Wade Hampton, the ex-rebel, who now represents South Carolina in the United States Senate. 2. He was made a general in the British service.

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY—"I AM MONARCH."

IOWA CITY, Iowa.
1. What and where is the Giant's Causeway? 2. Who is the author of the following lines, "I am monarch of all I survey?" D. H.

Answer.—1. The Giant's Causeway is in the county of Antrim, on the northeast coast of Ireland, between Bengore Head and Port Rush. 2. William Cowper was the author.

SALARIES.

CLAY CENTER, Neb.
Which office in the United States commands the highest salary annually, and which the second and third? N. E. PERRY.

Answer.—The President receives \$50,000 a year; the Ministers to Great Britain, France, Germany, and Russia, \$17,500 a year; and the General of the Army \$13,500 a year.

"A PUBLIC LAND QUESTION."

ELGIN, Minn.
Can a married man hold a pre-emption or homestead claim, under the present laws, if his wife positively refuses to live upon said claim with him, provided he makes his home upon said claim, and in every other respect fulfils the requirements of the law? W. T.

Answer.—The refusal of the wife to live on a homestead, provided the husband complies with the law, will not injure his rights.

TIME OF MAUD S.

CERESCO, Calhoun Co., Mich.
To settle a bet, please give the time of Maud S in Chicago in September, 1880.

ONE OF YOUR READERS.

Answer.—Maud S trotted against time, in harness, at Chicago, Sept. 13. 1880. Time, 2:10¾.

DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT.

BARNES, Kan.
Would the "Curiosity Shop" please state briefly the functions of the several branches of our government? J. N. W.

Answer.—The Federal Convention at Philadelphia in 1787 adopted a resolution to the effect that there be a national government, with a division of powers into the legislative, judicial, and executive departments. This was done, as the Articles of Confederation made no provision for judicial and executive departments. The Constitution afterward provided that "all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." In regard to the powers of Congress, it is provided that all bills for raising revenue shall

originate in the House of Representatives; Congress shall have power to lay and collect duties, imposts, and excises; pay the debts, provide for the common defense and general welfare; borrow money on the credit of the United States, regulate foreign and domestic commerce; establish a uniform rule of naturalization and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies; coin money, regulate its value and the value of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures; punish counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States; establish post-offices and post-roads; promote the progress of science and the usual arts; constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court; define and punish piracies and felonies on the high seas and punish offenses against the laws of nations; declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water; raise and support armies; provide and support a navy; make rules for the government of the army and navy; call out the militia to execute the laws; suppress insurrections, and repel invasion; provide for organizing, arming, and equipping the militia; exercise exclusive legislation over the district fixed for the seat of government, and over forts, magazines, arsenals, and dock yards; make all laws necessary and proper to carry into execution all powers vested by the Constitution in the government of the United States; have power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; may determine the time of choosing the electors for President and Vice President, and the day on which they shall give their votes; may admit new States into the Union, and shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the several amendments. The power of the judiciary shall extend to all cases in law and equity arising under the Constitution, laws, and treaties of the United States; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more States, and between a State and citizens of another State, and between citizens of different States; to citizens of the same State claiming lands under grants of different States; to controversies between a State or its citizens and foreign States, citizens, or subjects. In all these cases it shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions and regulations as Congress may make; the judicial power of the United States shall not be held to extend to any suit in law or equity commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign State. The executive power is vested in the President, who shall be Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, and of the militia of the States when called into active service; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the

principal executive departments; may grant reprieves or pardons for offenses, except in cases of impeachment; may make treaties by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; may appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers whose appointment may be authorized by law and not provided for in the Constitution; Congress may vest the appointment of inferior officers in the President, who may also fill up all vacancies that may happen in the recess of the Senate by commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session; he shall give information to Congress of the state of the Union, and recommend measures; on extraordinary occasions he may convene both houses or either house of Congress; in case of disagreement between the two houses as to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he may think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and commission all the officers of the United States.

ARCHBISHOP PURCELL.

DANVILLE, IOWA.
Can you furnish me with a sketch of Archbishop Purcell, with some account of his recent troubles in connection with the funds of his church?

HARRY FORRESTER.

Answer.—John Baptist Purcell was born at Mallow, Ireland, Feb. 26, 1800, and came to America when very young. He received his early theological education in Mount St. Mary's College, at Emmettsburg, in the State of Maryland, and continued and completed his studies in the Sulpitian Seminary at Paris, France, and entered the Roman Catholic priesthood in the same city in 1826, when he was ordained. On his return to America he taught theology in Mount St. Mary's, and in the year 1829 he became President of that institution. When only 33 years of age he was appointed and consecrated Bishop of Cincinnati, at a time when that city had but one Roman Catholic church, and when the diocese was coextensive with the State, out of which there have since been erected several dioceses. In 1860 he was made an Archbishop. While attending the Council of the Vatican he voted against the opportuneness of defining the doctrines of pontifical infallibility. Among the events of his life to be noticed, also, is that wherein he opposed in a controversy the Rev. Alexander Campbell, founder of the Disciples of Christ, sometimes called after the name of the founder. Archbishop Purcell has published several volumes of lectures and pastoral letters, etc. In regard to the financial difficulties into which he was drawn, culminating in 1878, this may be said: He had been given a large amount of money in the aggregate by the people of his diocese, to keep in perhaps something like the way a savings bank keeps the funds of its depositors. Much of this he invested, and, when the creditors desired it, like other investments in property at the time, it was

impossible to reach it as rapidly as the demands were made. There was something resembling a panic in the diocese, as the number of depositors was estimated to be in the neighborhood of 11,000, and the total liabilities, without reckoning full claims for compound interest, which would in equity be due, amounted, it was said, to about \$3,000,000. The Archbishop issued an appeal, and the church issued an exhortation to its supporters to aid him in the matter, but the response, while full, has not been enough to meet the wants of the time. In 1880 Bishop Elder was appointed by the Pope as Archbishop Purcell's coadjutor.

SUSPENDING THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

COMPTON.

Can the President, without Congressional action or permission, disregard the writ of habeas corpus? Did Abraham Lincoln so do in our civil rebellion? W. T.

Answer.—President Lincoln, when a particular case came before him, referred the question to his first Attorney General, the Hon. Edward Bates. The particular case was that wherein one John Merryman, of Baltimore County, Maryland, was arrested, charged with holding a commission as lieutenant in a company avowing its purpose of armed hostility against the government, with being in communication with the rebels, and with various acts of treason. This person was lodged in Fort McHenry, in command of General Cadwalader. The prisoner at once forwarded a petition to Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, reciting his arrest, and praying for a writ of habeas corpus and a hearing. The writ was issued, but General Cadwalader declined to respond, stating that he was duly authorized by the President to suspend the writ of habeas corpus for the public safety. Then the Chief Justice issued a writ of attachment, directing a United States Marshal to produce the body of General Cadwalader "to answer for his contempt in refusing to produce the body of John Merryman;" but the Marshal was not permitted to enter the gate, and was informed "there was no answer to his writ." The Chief Justice argued, in his delivered opinion on the subject, that the article in the Constitution, authorizing the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, is devoted to the Legislative Department of the United States, and has not the slightest reference to the Executive Department, and therefore that the former alone had the right to suspend the privilege of the writ. Attorney General Bates, in his opinion on the subject, asked by the President, held "that, in a time like the present (July 5, 1861), when the very existence of the Nation is assailed by a great and dangerous insurrection, the President has the lawful discretionary power to arrest and hold in custody persons known to have criminal intercourse with the insurgents, or persons against whom there is probable cause for suspicion of such criminal complicity." He then proceeded to argue that "all the other officers of the government are required to swear only to 'support this Constitution,' while the President must swear to 'preserve, protect and defend' it, which im-

plies the power to perform what he is required in so solemn a manner to undertake. And then follows the broad and compendious injunction to 'take care that the laws be faithfully executed.' And this injunction, embracing as it does all the laws—Constitution, treaties, statutes—is addressed to the President alone, and not to any department of the government. And this constitutes him, in a peculiar manner, and above all other officers, the guardian of the Constitution—its preserver, protector, and defender." It was reasoned, further, that to preserve the Constitution and execute the laws of all the Nation, it was impossible to do so without putting down rebellion, insurrection, and all unlawful combinations to visit the General Government. "The acts of Congress of 1795 and 1807 come to the President's aid, and furnish the physical force which he needs to suppress the insurrection and execute the laws; those two acts authorize the President to employ for that purpose the militia, the army and navy," as the "combinations are too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the marshals," as the act of 1795 states. The Attorney General also held that, "if we are at liberty to understand the phrase to mean, that in case of a great and dangerous rebellion like the present, the public safety requires the arrest and confinement of persons implicated in that rebellion, I freely declare the opinion that the President has lawful power to suspend the privilege of persons arrested under such circumstances: for he is especially charged by the Constitution with the 'public safety,' and he is the sole judge of the emergency which requires his prompt action." The power is, however, defined as "no part of his ordinary duty in time of peace; it is temporary and exceptional, and was intended to meet a pressing emergency when the judiciary is found to be too weak to insure the public safety." Some authorities hold this view: The Constitution does not expressly give the power to suspend the writ to any department of government, nor does it expressly reserve it to Congress, although, in the same article, it does make this express reservation as to some of the provisions contained in the article. This, it is suggested, may be a mere accidental omission, but to some it seems more reasonable and more consonant with the principles of legal interpretation to infer from it an absence of intention to confine it to Congress.

HOGARTH AND RABELAIS.

PAW PAW, Lee Co., Ill.
Please give short biographies of Hogarth and Rabelais.
GWENDOLEN.

Answer.—The English painter, William Hogarth, or Hogart, was born at London, some say in 1697, others in 1693. His father came of a Westmoreland family of yeomen, and was a teacher. At an early period young Hogarth's taste for design displayed itself, and though his education was scanty, he pushed forward. Then he was apprenticed to a silversmith, and found opportunities at odd

times for acquiring a knowledge of drawing from nature. When his term of service was over, he attended the lectures of Sir James Thornhill, painter to the King, and later he was found engraving shop bills and arms, from which he passed into furnishing frontispieces and plates for books, his illustrations of "Hudibras" being a not over-happy example. For ten years Hogarth's life was a struggle, a kind of from-hand-to-mouth affair, with some gleams and very much gloom as regards success. In 1730 he became the son-in-law of his former master, Sir James Thornhill, and soon after Hogarth adopted portrait-painting as his profession, and in four years he had become famous by his figures drawn from life, and then "The Rake's Progress" and others of his well-known works appeared, which evince an inventive and satiric humor that have rather increased his reputation as time has passed. He died Oct. 26, 1764. Several biographers have written lives of Hogarth, among them Allan Cunningham and G. A. Sala. Francois Rabelais was born at Chinon, Touraine, about the year 1490, and was educated at the convent of Senille and at the monastery of La Baunette, and, at the age of 21, was ordained a priest. His study of Greek, it is said, involved him in a quarrel with his fellow monks, and in 1524 he entered the order of Benedictines, but in 1530 he abandoned monastery life and went to Montpellier to study medicine, two years later being a physician at Lyons, and publishing editions of Hippocrates, Galen, and others. To shake the prevailing faith in astrology he wrote several humorous works. He returned, through the influence of Jean du Bellay, his old schoolmate, to the church, and finally was presented with a comfortable living. His literary labors were chiefly devoted to attacks, in one way and another, on monks, princes, and kings, and some of his efforts combine delicate thoughts with the grossest obscenities. He died at Paris in 1553.

BAYARD TAYLOR—ST. GOTHARD TUNNEL.

DEORAH, Iowa.
1. What was the date of the death of Bayard Taylor? 2. Where is St. Gothard tunnel? 3. Are the Secretary of the Treasury and the Treasurer of the United States the same officials?
AN INQUIRER.

Answer.—1. Bayard Taylor died at Berlin, Prussia, Dec. 19, 1873. 2. The tunnel of St. Gothard is in Switzerland, and makes the shortest line of transit between the valley of the Rhine and the Mediterranean. 3. They are entirely distinct offices. The Treasurer is an official of the Treasury Department, who is charged with the custody of all public money received into the Treasury at Washington or in the sub-treasuries, or in the depositories and depository banks; who disburses all public moneys upon the warrants of the Secretary of the Treasury, and upon the warrants of the Postmaster General; issues and redeems Treasury notes; is agent for the redemption of the circulating notes of national banks; is trustee of the bonds held for security of the circulating notes of national banks, and of bonds held

as security for public deposits; is custodian of Indian trust funds; is agent for paying the interest on the public debt, and for paying the salaries of the members of the House of Representatives.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

COMPTON, Lee Co., Ill.

Please give a short sketch of George Francis Train.

A READER.

Answer.—Train was born at Boston in the year 1830, and launched out into the mercantile world at "the Hub," but finding his restless spirit early asserting itself, started for Australia, where he remained for a time. He came to the surface in England the year before the slavery war, and tried to introduce street railways into London and Liverpool, but was opposed in law by strong forces. After that he became quite a traveler, writing and speaking, and growing more erratic all the while. He made Union speeches in England, and predicted in addresses, which were afterward published, the downfall of Britain. He advocated Irish independence, and announced himself as the champion of woman, as in later years he gave it out that he would one day be President of the United States. His home was a long time at Omaha, Neb. Some four or five years ago he lectured in some of the leading cities, and called himself a leader of the International. He has been quiescent for some time.

"THE BELLS OF SHANDON."

BLAIRSTOWN, Iowa.

Please give a sketch of "Father Prout" and "The Bells of Shandon."

PETER MCKENNA.

Answer.—Francis Mahoney, the brilliant Irish journalist, was a native of Cork, where he was born about the year 1805. He took orders, after studying at the Jesuit College at Paris, but afterward quitted the clerical profession and took to letters. He contributed to the magazines of his day, and some of these articles were collected and issued in 1836 in the form of a book, under the name of "Reliques of Father Prout." He traveled on the continent of Europe and in Asia Minor and Egypt, and labored for the cause of Italy, his letters being published in a book later. As the correspondent of several London journals, he was an acknowledged power. Two years before his death, which occurred in 1866, at Paris, he retired to a monastery in the French capital, where he passed the remainder of his life. The following stanzas will give the reader a hint of the famous "Bells of Shandon:"

"With deep affection

And recollection,

I often think of those Shandon bells,

Whose sound so wild would,

In the days of childhood,

Fling round my cradle their magic spells.

"On this I ponder,

Where'er I wander,

And thus grow fonder, sweet Cork, of thee,—

With thy bells of Shandon,

That sound so grand on

The pleasant waters of the river Lee."

THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS.

WASHINGTON, Wis.

Where is the "Bridge of Sighs," and why is it so called?

A READER.

Answer.—The Bridge of Sighs, which has

been made famous by Byron in "Childe Harold," is in Venice. Criminals were conveyed across the bridge to hear their sentence, and from there led to their execution; from this it derives its melancholy but appropriate name. It may be explained that the Ducal Palace is connected on the east side by this bridge with the prisons. Ruskin says of it, that the bridge is "a work of no merit and of a late period, owing the interest it possesses chiefly to its pretty name and the ignorant sentimentalism of Byron." Howells speaks of it as "That pathetic swindle, the Bridge of Sighs;" and a traveler writing of it says that the sighing company that crossed it must have been made up of "housebreakers, cut-purse knaves, and murderers," and the name was given it "by the people from that opulence of compassion which enables the Italians to pity even rascality in difficulties." Nevertheless, Byron thus sings of it:

"I stood in Venice, on the Bridge of Sighs;

A palace and a prison on each hand:

I saw from out the waves her structures rise,

As from the stroke of the enchanter's wand:

A thousand years their cloudy wings expand

Around me, and a dying glory smiles

O'er the far times, when many a subject land

Looked to the winged lion's marble piles,

Where Venice sate in state, throned on her hundred isles."

THE NILE.

PRAIRIEVILLE, Ill.

1. Has the true source of the Nile been discovered; if so, by whom, and when, and what, and where is its source, and how long is the Nile? 2. What causes the rising of the Nile annually?

J. LENNON.

Answer.—1. Willard Bartlett says that the source of the Nile "has been at least approximately solved by the discovery of two great lakes lying side by side directly under the equator, and known respectively as the Victoria N'yanza and the Albert N'yanza. The first of these equatorial fresh water basins was discovered July 30, 1858, by Captain J. H. Speke, of the British Indian army. March 14, 1864, Sir Samuel Baker discovered the second great lake, the Albert N'yanza." But more remains to be discovered. 2. The river begins to rise in its upper branches as early as April, but in Egypt not until the latter part of June, and there it reaches its greatest height between September 20 and 30, when it is usually at Cairo twenty-four feet above the low-water level and at Thebes thirty-six feet. About the middle of October it begins to fall. The annual rise is due to the equatorial seasons, the effects of which do not begin to be apparent down the river and in its affluents till some time after the rainy season.

ELIHU BURRITT.

TAMAROA, Ill.

Please give a short biography of Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith.

JOHN S. NEELY.

Answer.—He was a native of New Britain, Conn., having been born there Dec. 8, 1811. His father was a shoemaker, and he himself received such an education as the common schools of his day afforded, and at the age of 16 was apprenticed to a blacksmith. By unwearied application he acquired several languages, and after a time removed to Worcester for the benefit of the

library of the Antiquarian Society, and there he worked at his trade and perfected himself in the principal ancient and modern languages. For a season from 1844 he edited a paper at Worcester, whose principles were the peaceful settlement of international difficulties, and he lectured frequently in the same interest, and in 1846 visited England, where he formed a league with the same object in view. He returned to this country in 1850, having in the meantime taken a prominent part in a number of congresses in Europe in behalf of peace. He labored also in the cause of temperance, cheap ocean postage, and for the abolition of slavery. For some time he was United States Consul at Birmingham. Mr. Burritt published a number of works which added to his fame. He died in his native town, March 7, 1879.

CROPS FOR TEN YEARS.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.

Be kind enough to give the amount of wheat and other grain raised in the United States for the past ten years.

P. S.

Answer.—The reports for the past ten years show the following to have been the annual crops in bushels since 1870, so far as regards wheat, corn, and oats:

Year.	Wheat.	Corn.	Oats.
1870.....	235,884,700	1,094,257,000	247,277,400
1871.....	230,727,400	991,808,000	255,743,000
1872.....	249,997,100	1,092,719,000	271,747,000
1873.....	281,254,700	932,274,000	270,340,000
1874.....	308,102,700	850,148,500	240,369,000
1875.....	292,136,000	1,321,069,000	354,317,500
1876.....	289,856,500	1,283,827,500	320,884,000
1877.....	365,994,800	1,342,558,000	406,394,000
1878.....	420,122,400	1,388,218,750	413,578,560
1879.....	448,756,630	1,547,901,790	363,761,320
1880.....	459,591,105	1,776,106,576	.....

E. P. WHIPPLE.

GOODLAND, Ind.

Please give a short sketch of E. Whipple, the author.

H. B. M.

Answer.—Edwin Percy Whipple was born at Gloucester, Mass., March 8, 1815, and early in life entered a banking house in Salem as clerk and later removed to Boston, where he continued in the same line. From the foundation of the Merchants' Exchange until 1860 he was superintendent of the reading-room. A humorous poem he delivered in 1840, before the Mercantile Library Association of Boston, is noted among his efforts, and ten years later he delivered a Fourth of July oration before the municipal authorities of the same city, on "Washington and the Principles of the American Revolution." He began contributing to periodicals at the age of 14, and has published papers in the leading periodicals of this country, while he has lectured before the literary societies of Dartmouth and Amherst Colleges, Brown and New York Universities, the Lowell Institute, etc. As a literary critic he has been prominent for many years, and has occupied a high place in the finest literary of the leading magazines.

ICEBERGS.

KELLOGG, Iowa.

How and where are icebergs formed? Please explain and tell all that is known about them.

S. C. FUGARD.

Answer.—They are chiefly huge fragments of

glaciers which have become detached, by the action of the water, from the lower end of the glacier. Greenland has been called the fatherland of icebergs, having very many glaciers. It is generally accepted that but one-eighth of the iceberg is above the surface of the water, so that when one is seen that rises over fifty feet its size can be easily computed, and the dangers attending an encounter with a berg be appreciated. These ice islands carry with them in their journeys from the north masses of rock, earth, and sometimes plants, and upon them the denizens of the polar regions, such as the bear and seal, are occasionally transported from one place to another. Icebergs occur in the North Atlantic in the summer, usually the latter part of the season, and are quite dangerous at times to transatlantic navigation. The ocean currents bear them from the Atlantic to the temperate zone, and they are far more numerous in the northern than in the southern polar regions.

GOVERNOR YATES.

BROWN'S GROVE, Kan.

Please give a short biography of Richard Yates, ex-Governor of Illinois.

READER.

Answer.—Like a number of other men who became distinguished in Illinois, Governor Yates was a native of Kentucky, having been born in that State Jan. 18, 1818, the year his adopted State was admitted into the Union. After removing to Illinois he studied and graduated at Illinois College, and then entered the legal profession. He served in the State Legislature several terms, and was a Representative in Congress from 1851 to 1855, and in 1861 was elected Governor of the State for four years, and did patriotic service for the upholding of the Union, his efforts in the raising of troops being especially worthy of remembrance. Governor Yates became Senator Yates for the term beginning in 1865 and ending in 1871. In the year 1866 he was a member of the "Loyalists' Convention" at Philadelphia. His death occurred at St. Louis, Nov. 27, 1873.

THE WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.

LYONS, Wis.

I have a view of the aqueduct at Washington, D. C. Please give some account of its building, length, cost, etc.

MRS. M. W. K.

Answer.—The Washington Aqueduct was founded in 1856, and has cost about \$3,500,000. It collects the Potomac water by a line of stone dams at the Great Falls, and conducts it to Washington by an aqueduct sixteen miles in length, or eleven miles from the Great Falls of the Potomac to the distributing reservoir and five miles from the latter to the capital. Its capacity is about 70,000,000 gallons per day. On the line of this work are eleven tunnels and six bridges, the chief of which is over Cabin John Creek, a stone structure 100 feet in height and having a single span of 220 feet.

THE DARK AGES.

WOODLAWN, Mo.

A discussion on the dark ages having taken place, I desire to ask what period of time did they cover; i. e., when did they begin and end? What was the cause or causes of the dark ages?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The fact is that the term "Dark

ages has been and is somewhat vaguely applied to the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the revival of letters in the thirteenth to the fifteenth century. It is given a very wide sense, but most authorities agree in saying that probably the darkest period for Europe was about the seventh century. In various countries there was a difference in the time of the decline and revival of letters; as, for example, in the tenth century there was a deplorable state of affairs in Italy and England. There was a gleam of light in the eleventh and twelfth centuries on the continent, followed by a relapse which lasted the fourteenth century.

THE OATH TO WASHINGTON.

LIBERTY, IOWA.
Who administered the oath to Washington on his first taking the Presidential office? W. T. McMONNIS.

Answer.—Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, of New York, administered the oath of office to Washington. He was Chancellor of the State of New York, which office he held until 1801. He was born in the city of New York, Nov. 27, 1746, and died Feb. 26, 1813. As a statesman and jurist he stood high. His late years were devoted to introducing into New York State improvements in agriculture, and in encouraging a taste for the fine arts among his countrymen, as well as having been associated with Robert Fulton in the early experiments in steam navigation.

FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE.

CHICAGO.
Please tell us how many letters there are in the Bible, that is, in the Old and New Testament, and what are the middle chapter and verse, CLEBURTS.

Answer.—Just now the new version of the Bible is occupying the public Christian mind, and indeed the literary world. Before the King James version becomes coated over with dust and remains unused beside its fresh, bright, latter-day rival and successor, it may prove interesting to record here and now some of the curiosities of the sacred Scriptures, in the shape in which for nearly three centuries it has been the light and guide of a large part of the Christian church. We are indebted for the following facts to an ardent student of the Bible. There are sixty-six books in our Bible, of which the Old Testament contains thirty-nine and the New Testament twenty-seven. These books contain 1,189 chapters, the Old Testament having 929 and the New 260. Of the total of 31,178 verses from Genesis to the Revelation, there are 23,214 in the Old and 7,959 in the New. The same indefatigable mathematician discovers that there are 592,449 words in the Old and 181,153 in the New Testament, or a total in the Bible of 773,602 words. This wonderful calculation is continued so that we obtain the number of letters, which will be seen by the following: Old Testament, 2,728,100; New, 838,380; total, 3,566,480. We find that the shortest chapter is Psalm cxvii, which is also the middle chapter of the Bible, while the middle verse is the eighth in Psalm cxviii. In the Old Testament, Proverbs is the middle book; the middle chapter is Job xix.; and the shortest verse is I Chronicles, first

chapter, twenty-fifth verse. In the New Testament the middle book is II. Thessalonians; there is no middle chapter, there being an even number of chapters, but it would come between the thirteenth and fourteenth of Romans; the middle verse is the seventeenth of the seventeenth chapter of Acts; and the shortest verse in the New Testament, as well as the shortest in the Bible, is the thirty-fifth of the eleventh chapter of the Gospel according to St. John. The book of Esther is more peculiar in more respects than one, but one fact is worthy of note, and that is that the name of God does not occur in it in any form. The nineteenth chapter of the second book of Kings and the thirty-seventh chapter of Isaiah are almost word for word the same, the only difference in our version is such as would be easily made by two translators rendering the same passage. The twenty-first verse of the seventh chapter of the book of Ezra contains all the letters of the English alphabet excepting "J," which, suggests a philologist, "is a spurious counterpart of the letter 'I.'"

THE DEATH OF CUSTER.

HADDAM, KAN.
Is it so that at the Custer massacre there were none saved? Please give a brief description of the battle, and the numbers engaged. JOSEPH ENOCHS.

Answer.—During the winter of 1875-6 the Indians belonging to the several tribes of the great Sioux family had been very restless, and, at times, threatening. The disaffected left the frontier agencies in large numbers and assembled under the leadership of Crazy Horse, along Powder River and its affluents. Early in 1876, and while the weather was extremely cold, General Crook took the field in person with some picked troops of his department, and trailed the hostiles through the snow to the villages of Crazy Horse, then, as afterward, the military genius of what has become known in history as the "Sitting Bull movement." The Indians recovered from the blow dealt them, and, as the grass grew, these war-bent Sioux were joined by many more of the reckless, restless spirits of their nation, who agreed that their rendezvous should be on Powder and Tongue Rivers and along the southern tributaries of the Yellowstone. That region was then well stocked with the heavier game, buffalo, elk, and deer being fairly abundant. The arduous work of breaking this powerful confederacy of Sioux hostiles was placed by General Sheridan upon General Crook and General Terry, who commanded the two military departments in which was the seat of war. General Crook took the field with a small but fine force, moving from Fort Fetterman north, over the old Bozeman trail, to the eastern rim of the Big Horn Mountains, while General Terry marched with some of the best troops in his department up the Yellowstone; and, from the west, General Gibbon had a veteran command to prevent aggressive operations by the hostiles upon the Montana frontier. General Crook cut loose from his base of supplies, and moved over to the Rosebud, where he was attacked,

June 17, by the Sioux, in large force, and drove them off the field after a fight of five hours' duration. A few days later General Custer, who had swung clear of General Terry, marched up the Rosebud with the Seventh Cavalry, and struck the trail of the hostiles, who had retreated hastily after their combat with General Crook. This trail the Seventh Cavalry followed over to where the Sioux had made a camp along the banks of the Little Big Horn. When General Custer discovered the Indians' villages, he divided his command, himself taking five companies and charging the villages. Major Reno commanded the remainder of the troops, who had a frightfully narrow escape from annihilation. Not one man of all those who followed Custer on that fatal charge come out alive to tell the tale. It may be added that when Crazy Horse drew out of the movement, the organized forces of the Indians divided very rapidly, so that when Sitting Bull fled over the border, he had with him but a fragment of the tribes that went on the warpath in 1876. The number of the Sioux engaged in that great struggle has been variously given at from 2,000 to 7,000 fighting men.

BLIND TOM—ST. ELMO'S LIGHT.

SHERIDAN, Nemaha County, Neb.

1. Who is Blind Tom? Please give a sketch of him.
2. What is St. Elmo's light? WILLIAM STODDARD.

Answer.—Blind Tom, the now noted musician, was born in the State of Georgia, and very early in life began to be observed for his phenomenal powers as a musician. It is said that when he was little more than four years of age he excited attention. His memory has always been remarkable, and once hearing a piece of music will imprint it so upon his mind that he will be able to play it correctly. He has traveled in this country and in Europe, and is pronounced a musical marvel. He is said to have played as well when 7 years old as at present, and he plays now something like 7,000 pieces. His desire for music is a passion, and he has often resorted to violence when any one interfered with his playing on a piano. Blind Tom does not like Sunday-school music, and will never play any if he can help it. He often plays all day and night on his piano, and is singularly affected by cloudy or sunshiny weather. Since childhood he has been an idiot. 2. St. Elmo's fire or light is the popular name of an appearance sometimes seen, especially in Southern climates, during thunderstorms, of a brush or star of light at the tops of the masts of vessels, at the ends of the yards, or on spires or other pointed objects. It is occasionally accompanied by a hissing noise, and is evidently of the same nature as light caused by electricity off from points connected with an electrical machine. It is said, in Grecian mythology, that Castor and Pollux, who were esteemed mighty helpers of men, calmed tempests, appearing as the light flames on the masts of ships as described, and the ancient mariners look the appearance of these balls of light on

their vessels as a sign that they had nothing to fear from the storm.

THOROUGH-BRED AND FULL BLOODED.

GLENVILLE, Freeborn Co., Minn.

Please give a correct definition of the terms "thoroughbred" and "full-blooded," as understood by stock men, and the different meanings of the terms. My neighbor says that the product of a cross between a Durham and a Devon is a thoroughbred animal, though not a full-blooded animal. I contend the calf would neither be thoroughbred nor a full-blood. Who is correct? J. WILEY.

Answer.—In his "American Encyclopedia of Agriculture" the Hon. Jonathan Perlman says: "The word 'thoroughbred' does not mean, as many suppose, an animal of pure blood, that is unmixed. If so, any wild animal would be a thoroughbred. The word 'thoroughbred' is used to designate animals bred from the best blood, but originally derived from a mixture of races, as the short-horn cattle and racing horses." And further: "It is not to be supposed that there is any real difference between the blood of the thoroughbred horse and that of the half-breed animal: no one could discriminate between the two by any known means; the term 'blood' is here synonymous with breed, and by purity of blood is meant purity in the breeding of the individual animal under consideration; that is to say, that the horse which is entirely bred from one source is pure from any mixture with any other, and may be a pure Suffolk Punch, or a pure Clydesdale, or a pure thoroughbred horse. But all these terms are comparative, since there is no such animal as a perfectly purely bred horse of any kind, whether cart-horse, hack, or race-horse; all have been produced from an admixture with other kinds, and though kept as pure as possible, yet they were originally compounded from varying elements." The Stud Book and Herd Book contain the names of only such animals as are thoroughbreds. A gentleman in Chicago makes this statement: "A pure, or full-blood is an animal whose pedigree is clear, and which was bred without admixture from the same source, as a pure Clydesdale horse or a pure Durham bull or cow; a thoroughbred may also be a pure blood, but not necessarily so, as a thoroughbred calf may have come out of a Durham bull and a Devon cow."

THE COMMODORES PERRY.

QUINCY, Iowa.

Please give a biography of each of the two persons bearing the title of Commodore Perry.

L. WILLIAMS.

Answer.—Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry was born at South Kingston, R. I. Aug. 23, 1785, and died at Port Spain, Trinidad, on his birthday 1819. He was the son of Captain Christopher R. Perry, who was also a native of Rhode Island, and who served with distinction in the revolutionary navy. Young Oliver served in the Tripolitan war, and rose to the rank of master commander in August, 1812, during which year he had charge of a flotilla of gunboats in New York Harbor. In February of the following year he was ordered to Lake Ontario to serve, and soon after was chosen to command the squadron

on Lake Erie. He equipped a fleet of nine small vessels, and attacked the British fleet on the morning of Sept. 10, 1813, gaining a complete victory and capturing the entire squadron of the enemy. He was promoted to the rank of captain for this achievement, and received the thanks of Congress and a medal, and similar honors from the Senate of Pennsylvania. His other public services were performed in co-operating with General Harrison in retaking Detroit, and at the battle of the Thames during the same war. A marble statue was erected at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1860, to his memory. Commodore Mathew Calbraith Perry was a brother of the gallant sailor now famous for his victory on Lake Erie, and was born at Newport in 1794, and died at New York, March 4, 1858. He entered the navy at the age of 15, and when he was 19 years old was a lieutenant, a commander at 32, and a captain at 43. He fixed the locality for the first settlement of Liberia, cruised in the Mediterranean in 1830-3, returned to America to become actively engaged in the Brooklyn Navy Yard as superintendent of a school for gun practice and the organization of a steam navy, and in 1838 was detailed to visit the dockyards and lighthouses of Europe. Subsequently he commanded the African and Gulf squadrons, and ably co-operated in the siege of Vera Cruz during the Mexican war. In 1852-4 he commanded the Japan expedition, and negotiated an important treaty with that power.

THE WADE-DAVIS MANIFESTO.

NEW BOSTON, ILL.
What was the Wade-Davis manifesto against President Lincoln?
A READER.

Answer.—Congress passed a bill in 1864 "to guarantee to certain States, whose governments have been usurped or overthrown, a republican form of government." The bill contained, among other things, a plan for restoring the States in rebellion to their proper political relation in the Union. President Lincoln, in his proclamation relative to this bill, said that the bill was presented to him less than one hour before the sine die adjournment, and was not signed by him. The President declared that he was unprepared by a formal approval of the bill to be inflexibly committed to any single plan of restoration, and was also unprepared to "declare that the free State constitutions and governments, already adopted and installed in Arkansas and Louisiana, shall be set aside and held for naught, thereby repelling and discouraging the loyal citizens who have kept up the same as to further effort, or to declare a constitutional competency in Congress to abolish slavery in the States," but he at the same time sincerely hoped and expected that a constitutional amendment abolishing slavery throughout the Nation might be adopted. Yet he was fully satisfied with the system for restoration contained in the bill as one very proper for the loyal people of any State choosing to adopt it, and he was, and at all times would be, "prepared to give the Executive aid and assistance to any such people, so soon as military resistance to the United

States shall have been suppressed and the people thereof shall have sufficiently returned to their obedience to the Constitution and the laws of the United States, in which case military governors will be appointed, with directions to proceed according to the bill." The manifesto of Senator Wade and Congressman Davis, published a few weeks after President Lincoln's proclamation, was an arraignment of the President for his course, and at the time caused much and heated discussion.

CALLING OUT THE MILITIA.

MANCHESTER, IOWA.
When the militia is in the service of the United States can it, under any circumstances, be sent outside of its own State limits?

MRS. A. L. BEARDSLEE.

Answer.—The statutes provide that "whenever the United States are invaded, or are in imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe, or of rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, it shall be lawful for the President to call forth such number of the militia of the State or States most convenient to the place of danger or scene of action as he may deem necessary to repel such invasion or to suppress such rebellion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officers of the militia as he may think proper." And another section, how insurrection against the Government of the United States may be suppressed: "Whenever, by reason of unlawful obstructions, combinations, or assemblages of persons, or rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, it shall become impracticable, in the judgment of the President, to enforce, by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, the laws of the United States within any State or Territory, it shall be lawful for the President to call forth the militia of any or all the States, and to employ such parts of the land and naval forces of the United States as he may deem necessary to enforce the faithful execution of the laws of the United States, or to suppress such rebellion in whatever State or Territory thereof the laws of the United States may be forcibly opposed, or the execution thereof forcibly obstructed."

THE COUNCIL OF TEN.

FERRIS, ILL.
What am I to understand by the dreaded Ten who held conclave in Venice? Who were the Ten, what was their business, and why were they so dreaded?
OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The famous Council of Ten has long been the subject of the gravest historical discussion, and, as some writers suggest, its true history is probably unwritten. The view generally adopted is that here given. The Council of Ten was established about the middle of the fourteenth century, at a time when Venice was greatly disturbed. After a while there were selected from the Ten three inquisitors, in whom all the powers of the state were vested, and who formed a court whose proceedings have been so often called in question by historians. Their rigid despotism, says one writer, had the effect of giving a stern unity of purpose to the pro-

ceedings of government and doubtless contributed in some degree to consolidate the various accessions of territory which had been made into one whole. The Council is said to have been, at first, at least, more terrible to the nobility than to the commoners, doubtless from the fact that the conspiracies which were then frequent were creations of that class, and the best authorities generally hold the opinion that the Ten preserved the external dignity and independence of the republic better than their predecessors. A notable fact is that the height of the prosperity of Venice was reached about that time, and when their despotism passed away, with it departed the greatness of the city of the waters.

BENN PITMAN AND A. J. GRAHAM.

Please give a sketch of Benn Pitman and A. J. Graham? MUSKEGON, Mich.
T. L. RAYNOLDS.

Answer.—Benn Pitman, less celebrated than his brother Isaac, who was the inventor of the system of phonetic writing, came to this country and settled at Cincinnati. The family was English, Isaac having been born at Trowbridge, Wiltshire, Jan. 4, 1813. Benn devoted himself to the propagation of phonography, and founded a system similar to that of his brother. The British stenographers generally use Isaac's system, while Benn's system is that most in use among short-hand writers in the United States. Benn Pitman is the author of a number of works on the art. He reported the great treason trials at Indianapolis in 1865, and also the trials of the assassins of President Lincoln, the same year. He resides at Cincinnati, where he has the reputation of being quite an odd genius. It may be mentioned that the body of the late Mrs. Pitman was cremated Feb. 15, 1878, at Washington, Pa., under the charge of Dr. LeMoyné, whose remains were cremated at the same place Oct. 16, 1879. Andrew J. Graham, of New York, is the author of a system of short-hand which a number of stenographers follow in the United States. He has published a number of books on the subject, and is quoted as at the head of one of the three leading, distinct versions or modifications of the system of Isaac Pitman.

THE WATER WORKS CRIB—ECLIPSES.

1. To settle a dispute, please state which cost the most, the St. Louis bridge or the tunnel at Chicago, leading from the crib in the lake? 2. Also, at what hour of the afternoon the total eclipse was thirteen years ago? DANA, Ind.
L. HASKELL.

Answer.—1. The great St. Louis bridge was completed at a cost of \$12,000,000. According to the last report of the City Engineer of Chicago, the entire cost of the lake tunnels, including the first and second tunnels, the land tunnel, and the extension of the lake tunnel to the West Side Pumping Works, was \$1,423,488.04. The crib cost \$70,253.31. The entire cost of Chicago's water system, including pipes, works, tunnels, inlet, reservoirs, shops, etc., has been \$8,550,374.40. 2. The eclipse of Aug. 7, 1869, occurred be-

tween 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, or, as Dr. J. Gardiner wrote of his observations at Bedford, Ind., "At 4 o'clock and 21½ minutes contact was observed in the magnified image on the ground glass."

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CLEAR LAKE, Iowa.
When and for what reason was the District of Columbia made less than ten miles square? G. R.

Answer.—The District of Columbia had, as is well known, originally an area of 100 miles, consisting of a square tract lying on both sides of the Potomac, and measuring ten miles on each side. The portion east of the Potomac, containing sixty-four square miles, was ceded to the government by the State of Maryland, and that west of the river, containing thirty-six square miles, by the State of Virginia, and since 1800 has been used as the seat of government. In 1846, however, a general desire was expressed, both by the inhabitants of the portion of the District west of the Potomac, and the State of Virginia, that that portion which included the city of Alexandria should be retroceded to Virginia. A resolution was passed in Congress July 9, 1846, consenting to the retrocession upon the approval of the citizens residing in that part of the District. Sept. 1 and 2, of the same year, a vote was taken, and the retrocession was desired by a vote of 763 in favor to 222 against it, and Sept. 7 the President issued his proclamation ratifying the transfer. The present District, therefore, includes only the territory originally ceded by the State of Maryland.

AREA OF LONDON AND NEW YORK.

SILVER CREEK, Neb.
1. What is the area of London? also of New York City? 2. What is the population of the world? A. FOLSON.

Answer.—1. The size of London is somewhat indefinite. The postal district covers an area of about 250 square miles, while the police district extends still further, covering an area of about 690 square miles. Generally, however, the size of the city is determined by the area under the operation of the metropolis local government act, and according to this definition London covers an area of 122 square miles, forming parts of the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, and Kent. Of New York, it may be said that the main body of the city is situated on Manhattan Island, besides which it includes a large number of islands, and that its area is about 42 square miles. 2. According to the last figures of statisticians the present population of the earth is in the neighborhood of 1,456,000,000, as against 1,439,000,000 two years ago.

FIRST STEAMER ON LAKE ERIE.

PROPHETSTOWN, Ill.
When was the first steamer launched on Lake Erie; also name of boat? J. D. PARISH.

Answer.—In Newman's "America" we find the following: "1818. The first steamer, for trade on the great lakes, was 'The Walk-in-the-Water', of 360 tons, built at Black Rock, N. Y. It was lost in a gale in 1822. It was the first steamer

to enter Lake Michigan." Black Rock is near Buffalo, on Lake Erie. There have been a number of controversies on this question, and therefore, we have quoted from Professor Newman's recent work.

CHRISTIANITY IN FRANCE.

Waukeez, Iowa.
When was Christianity first introduced into France?
NEWELL JOHNSON.

Answer.—In the year 160 or 161 A. D. we find a Bishop of Lyons, Pathinus, and with him the well known Irenæus. These men ministered at first to Greek and other settlers, for the early church of Lyons long bore marks of a Greek and not a Latin origin. Roman Christendom did little for Gaul till the middle of the third century, when in the year 244 seven Latin bishops were sent there, and formed new centers of Christian life at Limoges, Tours, and even Paris.

"GENTILES" IN UTAH.

Darlington, Wis.
1. About what time did the "Gentiles" begin to come and settle in Salt Lake City? 2. In what occupations did they engage? 3. About how many of them become stock farmers? 4. About how many "Gentiles" are there now?
J. B. K.

Answer.—1. The "Gentiles" have not been numerous in Utah until within fifteen years. Probably the beginnings of their settlement there may be dated from 1857 or 1858. 2. For some time the most of them were engaged in mercantile pursuits of various kinds, but so far as known there are not many engaged in stock-raising. 3. The last census showed that in Utah about 107,000 of the 143,906 white inhabitants are Mormons, and the remaining 36,000 are "Gentiles," a decided gain since 1870, when there were not more than 15,000 "Gentiles" in the Territory.

"CLEANLINESS NEXT TO GODLINESS."

Chicago.
Whereabouts in the Bible or elsewhere is to be found the phrase, "Cleanliness is next to godliness"?
WANT TO KNOW.

Answer.—It is supposed by many that these words are to be found in the Scriptures, and often very intelligent writers have alluded to the phrase as if it were of Bible origin. In Chambers' "Book of Days," the second volume, page 206, in an article on Rowland Hill, the following is attributed to that noted preacher: "Good Mr. Whitefield used to say, 'Cleanliness is next to godliness.'"

NATURALIZATION—THE "JEANNETTE" EXPEDITION.

Logansport, Ind.
1. Is there a law in the United States requiring aliens to reside in the country five years or more before becoming naturalized? 2. When did the "missing Jeannette" sail, and from what port?
C. C. ADAMS.

Answer.—1. There is no United States statute on the subject. 2. The steamer "Jeannette," fitted out by James Gordon Bennett for an arctic voyage of discovery through Behring's Straits, left San Francisco July 8, 1879. There were thirty-two men on board all told.

WASHINGTON'S HEIGHT.

Glasgow, Ohio.
Please state what was the height of Washington.
W. M. GRAFTON.

Answer.—George Washington was six feet two

inches high, his person in youth being somewhat spare, but well proportioned.

GUADALUPE HIDALGO.

Sioux City, Iowa.
Why is the treaty between the United States and Mexico, made Feb. 2, 1848, called the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo? If named from a city by that name, where is that city?
CYRENE CARMEAN.

Answer.—Guadalupe Hidalgo is a small town situated about three-and-a-half miles north of the City of Mexico, where the treaty between Mexico and the United States was concluded, Feb. 2, 1848, and ratified by the Mexican Congress May 19, the same year.

WARWICK, THE KING-MAKER.

Guilford, Mo.
I have heard it said that the treatment which ex-Senator Conkling has received at the hands of the administration finds a parallel in the case of Edward IV. and the Earl of Warwick. How about Edward and Warwick? Was Warwick instrumental in seating Edward on the throne, and did he afterward receive bad treatment from Edward?
GEO. S. MILLER.

Answer.—The great Earl of Warwick espoused the cause of Edward IV., and the contest began between the houses of York and Lancaster. The Queen of the weak Henry VI., Margaret of Anjou, struggled for her husband's claims; but, to sum up the contest, she was finally defeated by Edward's forces at Towton, in Yorkshire. Margaret fled to France, only to again attack Edward's troops on her return to Britain, and once more to suffer defeat. Edward's claims had been successfully established by Warwick and other leaders, and now the young King bethought himself of marriage. It is held by many historians that Edward dispatched Warwick to demand for him the French King's sister, the Lady Bona, or Bonne, of Savoy. Warwick's mission was successful, but his displeasure was great when he discovered that Edward had privately married Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Gray and daughter of Richard Woodville, and that the King had his wife publicly acknowledged his Queen soon after. The Queen, whose influence soon became apparent, sought to draw every grace and favor to her own friends and kindred, and to exclude those of Warwick, whom she regarded with dislike. The great Earl perceived the change of royal temper, and was joined in his feelings of hostility to the Woodvilles and the King by the nobility of England. Warwick then found an associate in George, Duke of Clarence, second brother of the King, to whom the king-maker gave his daughter in marriage. This last act in turn displeased Edward. Then a dangerous combination was formed against the King and his ministry. Warwick and the Duke were denounced as traitors, and fled to France, and the Earl arranged with Margaret of Anjou to attack Edward; an arrangement made, not because the Earl loved the house of Lancaster, but because he hated Edward for the injuries, real or supposed, he had received at the King's hands. The plan was to re-establish Henry on the throne, and Warwick was to have a large share in the government, and then Prince Edward should marry the second daughter of the Earl. The plan

was successful so far as driving Edward from England for a time, and Henry was proclaimed king with great solemnity, and the government placed in the hands of Warwick and the Duke of Clarence. Edward, the King, had meanwhile found a supporter in the Duke of Burgundy, and returned to England with an expedition, and many flocked to his standard. A battle was fought between Warwick's forces and those of Edward, at Barnet. Clarence deserted to his brother, and Warwick and his brother were slain.

COMETS.

PLEASEANT PRAIRIE, IOWA.
Please explain in regard to comets, of what they are composed, how they differ from other heavenly bodies, what makes the tail, etc.

J. C. ROBB.

Answer.—A comet, when perfectly formed, consists of the nucleus, the envelope, and the tail. The nucleus, or body, is generally distinguished by its forming a bright point in the center of the head, conveying the idea of a solid, or at least a very dense, portion of matter. The envelope, or coma, is nebulous light around the nucleus, which frequently renders the edge of the nucleus so indistinct that it is extremely difficult to ascertain its diameter with any degree of precision, and it usually has a luminous train or tail following or preceding the nucleus. Now, neither the tail nor the nucleus is considered absolutely necessary to a comet, but all bodies are classed as comets which have the peculiar motion of comets and an extremely eccentric orbit. Planets move in the same direction from west to east, which is called direct motion, but the movements of comets are sometimes from east to west. The orbits of all the planets are limited to a comparatively narrow zone on either side of the ecliptic, but the paths of comets cut the ecliptic in nearly every direction, some being even perpendicular to it. Then the fact is noted that the orbits of all the planets are nearly circular, while the orbits of comets present every degree of eccentricity. Some comets seem to consist in part of vaporized carbon or hydro-carbon gases, although observations with the spectroscope have failed to give satisfactory evidence of their chemical constitution. They shine by reflecting the light of the sun. The tail usually increases very much as it approaches the sun, and in receding from the sun it again contracts and nearly or quite disappears before the body of the comet is entirely out of sight. The tails of comets extend in a direct line from the sun, more or less curved like a long quill or feather, being convex on the side next to the direction in which they are moving.

AUTHOR OF "ROBINSON CRUSOE."

ROOT RIVER, MINN.
Give a brief account of the author of "Robinson Crusoe," and tell something about what it was founded on.

READER.

Answer.—Daniel De Foe, wrote his famous "Crusoe" in 1719, by far the most popular of all his works. Its success was immediate, and the publisher who had accepted it after all the others had refused is said to have cleared £1,000 by its

publication, a sum that was considerable in those days. De Foe was born at London in 1661, the son of a butcher, named James Foe, and our author did not add the prefix "De" to the family name until he had reached manhood. At the age of 21, he began his career as author by writing a pamphlet which contained strictures on the clergy of that day, followed in a year by another pamphlet, and in 1685 he took part in the rebellion of the Duke of Monmouth, but escaped punishment, and later he engaged in trade, but misfortune moved him to abandon it. His satirical poem, "The True-born Englishman," written in vindication of King William and in reply to a poem in which he had been attacked, had a wonderful success, 80,000 pirated copies being sold on the streets of London. He was prosecuted for a publication, and found guilty, pilloried, fined, and imprisoned. He published various works, and led quite a peculiar life for some time, until "Robinson Crusoe" appeared. De Foe's fictitious narratives are characterized by an unparalleled appearance of truth. Alexander Selkirk lived in solitude on the Island of Juan Fernandez for four years, from 1704 to 1708, and it was his story which suggested to De Foe his "Crusoe."

FIRST SPEAKER OF CONGRESS.

KENOSHA, WIS.
Who was the first speaker of our Congress? Please give some facts about him.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Frederick A. Muhlenberg, who belonged to quite a famous family of Pennsylvania, was the Speaker of the first Congress. He was born at the Trappe in 1750, and was ordained to the ministry of the Lutheran church. He officiated in country churches in Pennsylvania, and in New York City, which he left when the British entered. In 1779 and 1780 he was elected to the Continental Congress, and for several years after was a member of and Speaker of the State Legislature of Pennsylvania. He was President of the State convention called to consider the ratification of the Federal Constitution, and gave it his earnest support. He was a member of the first four Congresses, and was speaker of the First and Fourth Congresses. He was Register of the Land Office of Pennsylvania under Governors Mifflin and McKean, holding that office at the time of his death at Lancaster, June 4, 1801.

THUNDER—CHURNING.

HOMESTEAD, IOWA.
1. Please explain the phenomena of thunder? 2. Explain the philosophy of churning; what should be the temperature of milk for churning?

READER.

Answer.—1. The thunder which accompanies the lightning, writes one authority, as well as the snap attending the electric spark, has not yet been satisfactorily accounted for. Both, no doubt, arise from a commotion of the air brought about by the passage of electricity, but it is difficult to understand how it takes place. Even if this difficulty were cleared, there still remains the long rolling of the thunder, and its strange rising and falling to account for; the echoes sent between the clouds and the earth, or

between objects on the earth's surface, may explain this to some extent, but not fully. 2. The principle involved in churning is the thorough agitation of the contents of the churn so as to cause the rupture of the minute fat globules present in the milk, and the incorporation or kneading of these ruptured fat globules into larger or smaller masses of butter. It is held by some authorities that the temperature of the milk in summer should not exceed 62 degrees; and in very hot weather may be under 60; while during cold weather, the milk should be about 2 degrees higher when churning.

THE BRAZEN SERPENT

ELROY, ILL.

Please give an account of the "brazen serpent," what finally became of it, and what does it and teach us?

DORA PHELES.

Answer.—As a punishment for the murmuring of the Israelites, God sent into the midst of the camp a venomous serpent, called "fiery," probably, from the burning which followed its deadly bite. There are many species of such dangerous serpents still found in the wilderness of Sinai. The destruction of life was great, and the people entreated Moses to intercede for their deliverance. To test the sincerity of their penitence, Moses was commanded to make a serpent of brass resembling the serpents among them, and to put it upon a pole, that it might be seen from all parts of the camp; and then whoever was bitten should be healed by simply looking at the brazen figure. This was done, and all the promised effects followed. This passage of Scripture history is alluded to by Christ as an illustration of the work He came to do. What became of it appears in I Kings, xviii.

THE PIKE'S PEAK FEVER.

KANKAKEE, ILL.

We would like to know something about the date of the Pike's Peak fever, and why the peak was so called? Has its name any connection with Pike County?

PRAIRIE BOYS.

Answer.—As far back as 1858 reports found their way East that gold had been discovered near the base of Pike's Peak, and the following year these statements were verified, and then the "fever" began. Settlers of all kinds poured in—miners and "tender feet" (i. e. pilgrims who were out West on their first trip)—and the greatest excitement prevailed. "The Peak" was named in honor of General Zebulon M. Pike, who discovered it in the year 1806. The "Pikes," who were so well known all over the West, were men from Pike County, Mo., and by that name they have gone into Western history. They were a hardy, adventurous class, and gave their name to almost every good-sized emigrant from Missouri who crossed the plains.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

GOSHEN, IOWA.

Please give a description of the Crystal Palace, and tell a reader where it is located.

MRS. JOSIE STAHL.

Answer.—The present Crystal Palace at Sydenham, is seven and a half miles from London Bridge, and is easily reached by rail from almost any part of the great capital. It was built in

1854 as a permanent structure, and must not be confounded with the great Crystal Palace in which the world's fair was held in 1851, and which was soon afterward removed. The present palace cost £1,450,000, or about \$7,250,000. It is surrounded by beautiful and extensive parks and grounds; has two towers, from the top of which 10,000 square miles of England may be seen; there are also an opera house and theater, art galleries, a great concert room, a zoological collection, an exhibition department, and a large number of other attractions. The gardens are delightful, and the parks and grounds charming, and the whole palace and its environs are well worth seeing. No description, without illustrations, could do justice to the palace within and without, and even then only a visit can give the traveler or tourist an adequate conception of this wonderful structure.

SHOE-PEGS.

ROCKFORD, ILL.

Please state when and by whom the shoe-peg was invented, and such other facts about it that may be of interest.

CRISPIN.

Answer.—To a Massachusetts man, Joseph Walker, is due the credit of inventing the shoe-peg. Previous to the year 1818 its use had not been known, and the invention gave a new start to the manufacture of boots and shoes. Up to that date such articles had been sewed, and the peg, made at first by hand, came in to revolutionize the trade. It was, however, the custom of shoemakers who lived away from the manufacturing centers to make their own pegs by hand even down to recent times, but the machine-manufactured peg has now superseded all such slow work, just as the horseshoe nail manufacture is now almost wholly in the hands of establishments that make them by machinery. The usual story comes with the introduction of the shoe-peg, to the effect that some unscrupulous parties tried to swindle the unsuspecting by endeavoring to sell shoe-pegs as a new kind of oats. But this tale is like many others, to be read, and then "taken under advisement."

MARQUETTE'S REMAINS.

ELGIN, ILL.

Is it true that the remains of Father Marquette, the Jesuit explorer, have ever been recovered? If so, where and by whom?

HISTORIAN.

Answer.—The remains, or what are believed to be the remains, of Father Marquette were discovered only a few years ago at Point St. Ignace, within a few miles of Mackinaw Island. The discoverer was Father Jucker, a priest who has long been stationed at Ignace, and who has given quite a good deal of attention to the question. He traced the bones of the explorer from the place where he died to Ignace, and, following the records and traditions, sought out at the point mentioned for the ruins of the chapel which once stood at that place. Finding the outlines of the foundation of this rude temple of worship, Father Jucker had excavations made and came upon the remains of a birch-bark box which contained all that was mortal of Jacques Mar-

quette. The box and bones were under the place where the altar of the chapel had been.

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE.

SCOTT, Crawford County, Wis.
1. Please inform us who was Governor of New York in 1689. 2. What constitutes the Electoral College?
G. L. MYERS.

Answer.—1. In 1688, in the month of August, New York was placed with New England under the administration of Andros, Francis Nicholson being appointed Lieutenant Governor of New York. In 1689 the people revolted from the tyranny of Nicholson, and, under the lead of Jacob Leisler, a merchant of New York, seized the government and administered it in the name of William and Mary. Leisler was never officially recognized as Governor, but he continued at the head of affairs more than two years, when Governor Sloughter superseded him, bearing a commission direct from the English sovereigns. 2. The persons who have received the requisite number of votes in their several States are the electors. Electors of all the States compose what is known as the Electoral College.

GENERAL ADAM BADEAU.

BUFFALO HART, Ill.
Please give a short sketch of Major General Badeau.
JOHN E. CONSTANT.

Answer.—General Badeau is a native of the State of New York, and early in the slavery war entered the Union army as a volunteer, becoming a captain and aide-de-camp in 1862, and serving on the staff of General Sherman. He was wounded at Port Hudson, and in 1864 became Lieutenant Colonel and Military Secretary to General Grant, and was made Brevet Brigadier General United States army for faithful and meritorious services in the war. From March, 1865, to May, 1869, he was Colonel and Aide-de-camp to the General of the Army, and was then retired. General Badeau has written the "Military History of General U. S. Grant," the third volume of which has recently been published. His literary labors give him a front place among those who have written of the events and men in the slavery war, and his books on General Grant are pronounced as of the greatest value and importance to the history of the United States.

ANTIGONE—CUBIC FOOT OF GOLD.

OCONOMOWOC, Wis.
1. I came across, lately, the following expression: "The fate of Antigone." Please tell me something about her. 2. Also, to decide a controversy, what is the value of a cubic inch of pure gold?
L. R.

Answer.—1. Antigone was the daughter of Œdipus, King of Thebes, by his mother, Jocasta. When her father discovered he had killed his father and wedded his mother, he put out his eyes and went to Attica attended by his daughter. Œdipus dying, Antigone went to Thebes to effect the sepulture of her brother Polyneices, but Creon, the King of Thebes, as well as her maternal uncle, had forbidden, under penalty of death, the interment of the young Prince, on the ground that he had warred against his own country. Antigone, however, disregarding all personal considerations, succeeded in sprinkling dust three times on her brother's remains, which was equivalent to sepulture. She was seized for this,

and immured alive in a tomb, where she hung herself. Hæmon, the son of Creon, to whom she was betrothed, effected an entrance and killed himself by her corpse, and his mother, Eurydice, also put an end to her existence. The story of Antigone is told with some variations, and forms the basis of one of the tragedies of Sophocles. 2. The weight of a cubic foot of gold is 1,204.9 pounds avoirdupois.

THE WESTERN RESERVE.

DEWITT, Neb.
What is the boundary of the Western Reserve in Ohio, and why is it so called?
B. F. HAGGERTY.

Answer.—Several of the seaboard States at an early day when, in fact, they were colonies, acquired claims to lands extending westward practically to the utmost limit. Among this number were Connecticut, Virginia, New York, and Massachusetts. These laid claim to portions of the territory embracing Ohio, their claims being based on their chartered grants, but all finally ceded the right of eminent domain to the United States, Virginia and Connecticut reserving, however, the ownership of about 3,700,000 acres each. The Connecticut lands formed what was called the Western Reserve, and the Virginia the region about the Falls of the Ohio, which eventually became a part of the State of Indiana. The Western Reserve began to be settled about the year 1800. The pioneers of Ohio were New Englanders, who, however, found their way to that State, settling at Marietta, Cincinnati, and at other points. The Reserve was in the northeastern part of Ohio.

JOHN STUART MILL.

BATTLE GROUND, Ind.
Please give a short sketch of the life and labors of John Stuart Mill.
J. W. L.

Answer.—John Stuart Mill, the son of James Mill, was born at London, May 20, 1806, and died May 8, 1873, at Avignon. He was educated at home by his father, and in 1820 went to France, where he remained for over a year, studying the French language and now and then attending lectures on science. After giving considerable attention to France and French affairs he entered the India House and became a clerk, and for thirty-three years he continued in the department of the office known as the "political" or the transactions of the company with the native states. In 1853 he retired from office on a compensating allowance. At the general election of 1865 he was returned to Parliament for Westminster, and until he lost his seat in 1868 he acted with the advanced Liberals. Mr. Mill became an author at an early age, and is looked on as one of the foremost thinkers of the time. His works are numerous, embracing the "System of Logic," and those on political economy, etc.

WOMEN IN THE RIOTS OF 1877.

CHICAGO.
Is it true that women took part in the riots that occurred in Chicago in 1877?
NEW COMER.

Answer.—It is a fact that bodies of women participated in the disturbances which came to Chicago, with some of the other leading cities of the country, in July, 1877. One band of

women in the southwestern part of the city, and in the "Gad's Hill" district, attacked the police with missiles, and made it lively for the guardians of the public peace there for a time. Their outburst was, however, soon repressed. This uprising took place beyond the Burlington Railroad track, and about three-quarters of a mile west of Halsted street.

BOSTON'S GREAT FIRE.

When was the great fire in Boston, and what was the damage done? MILWAUKEE, Wis. QUERIST.

Answer.—The Boston fire occurred Nov. 9, 1872, and burned over sixty-five acres in the very heart of the business section of the city. The most authentic reports place the number of buildings burned at 446, and the loss at \$76,000,000. Some of the most substantial structures in the city were, as in the great fire of the age at Chicago, swept away like frame buildings, and fire-proof edifices shared a similar fate.

POSTAL CARDS.

Give the five cities that sold the most postal cards during the last year. NAPERVILLE, Ill. READER.

Answer.—New York is of course at the head of the list, having sold during the last fiscal year 29,000,000 cards; Philadelphia comes second with 14,175,000, while Chicago ranks a close third, having sold 13,700,000. Boston was fourth at 8,000,000, and St. Louis fifth at 7,040,000, or about one-half less than Chicago.

SEVERAL RESIDENCES.

Please state the residences of the following-named persons: Dan Voorhees, Garland, the ex-Senator; General Pope, J. C. New, General Tom Ewing. R. J. COLUMBUS, Miss.

Answer.—Daniel W. Voorhees resides at Terre Haute, Ind.; A. H. Garland, Little Rock, Ark.; General John Pope is commanding the Department of the Missouri, with headquarters at Leavenworth, Kan.; General Tom Ewing's home is at Lancaster, Ohio.

SECRETARY LINCOLN.

When and where was President Lincoln's son, Robert, now Secretary of War, born? And in what part of Chicago did he live before he was appointed to the Cabinet? DECATUR, Ill. MACON COUNTY.

Answer.—Secretary Robert T. Lincoln was born at Springfield, Ill., Aug. 1, 1843. He was a resident of the South Division of Chicago, where he is well known and highly esteemed.

SUMNER ASSAULTED—HIS DEATH.

When was the Hon. Charles Sumner assaulted in Congress, and by whom? What was the date of Sumner's death? FORT SCOTT, Kan. SMITH GARDNER.

Answer.—Senator Sumner was assaulted May 22, 1856, by Preston S. Brooks, Member of Congress from the State of South Carolina. He died at Washington, March 11, 1874.

ST. PETER'S BONES.

To settle a dispute, please state whether the Roman Catholic Church claim they have St. Peter's remains in Rome or not? SABBETHA, Nemaha Co., Kan. D. O. DEANER.

Answer.—The head of Saint Peter is said to be preserved beneath the high altar of the basilica of St. John Lateran, at Rome. There has been

many a discussion between theologians as to whether Peter was ever in Rome, and even if he did visit and die at Rome, it may be a grave question as to whether his remains in any form, or any part of them, now exist, there or elsewhere.

PROHIBITION.

Has the National Government power to allow any one to manufacture or sell intoxicating liquor contrary to a prohibitory amendment enacted by the Legislature or State government? PARKERSBURG, Iowa. W. A. MANLEY.

Answer.—It is only necessary to cite the well-known cases of Maine and Kansas as an answer to this question.

THE PASSOVER.

Have the Jews kept the passover since the crucifixion of Christ? Do they keep it now? EMMETSBURG, Iowa. O. B.

Answer.—The passover is still observed by the Jews, but generally it simply has the character of a hallowed family feast.

GREAT FIRES.

Would like to know the dates and losses of the fires at Oshkosh, Peshtigo, and Portland, Me., and the Southern Hotel fire in St. Louis. JANESVILLE, Wis. INQUIRER.

Answer.—There was an extensive and destructive fire at Oshkosh, Wis., when the greater part of that flourishing city, that is, the business portion, was destroyed. It was estimated that the loss was fully \$3,000,000. The fire occurred April 28, 1875. The loss to the lumber trade there was serious. The great fire at Peshtigo took place in October, 1871. This came in what was a series of catastrophes that immediately preceded the Chicago fire. There were many lives lost in the Peshtigo fire, and the town obliterated by the conflagration. It is estimated that the loss attending that fire amounted to about \$4,000,000. The Portland, Me., fire occurred July 4, 1866, and swept nearly one-third of the city out of existence. It originated by a boy carelessly using a fire-cracker in his celebration of the day, and this set fire to some shavings in a cooper shop. The flames spread very rapidly from the beginning, and had such headway that it seemed to be impossible to check them. The amount of property destroyed was in the neighborhood of \$15,000,000. There were some very heavy losers, the United States Government losing largely. There were about 1,600 buildings that fell, including the City Hall, which was burned inside. The Southern Hotel fire at St. Louis occurred April 11, 1877. The fire originated in the basement at midnight, and, ascending the elevator way, spread to all parts of the building, which was six stories high. There were a number of lives lost.

DARWIN.

Please give us a sketch of Darwin, the scientist, and also a brief history of his doctrine, Darwinism. WALKERTON, Ind. WILL. ENDLEY.

Answer.—Charles Robert Darwin is the son of Dr. R. W. Darwin, and grandson of Dr. Erasmus Darwin, both of whom rose to distinction. The naturalist and author was born at Shrewsbury, Feb. 12, 1809, and received his early education

at a grammar school there; and when 16 years of age went to the University of Edinburgh, studying two years, and then entered Christ's College, Cambridge, where he took his degree in 1831. The autumn of that year found him volunteering as naturalist to accompany Captain Fitzroy, in the ship *Beagle*, on his exploring expedition round the world. The voyage lasted from 1831 to 1836, and during it the greater part of the South American coast, the Pacific islands, Australia, New Zealand, and the Mauritius were visited and examined. During this voyage Darwin was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. When several volumes on this voyage were published, he contributed papers on the discoveries in natural history and geology, and several editions were issued. His more recent works include the "Origin of Species," which is probably the best known of his productions, having gone through many editions, and been translated into a number of languages. Darwin's work has been an attempt to account for the diversities of life on the earth by means of continuous development, without the intervention of special creative flats at the origin of each species. His "Descent of Man" appeared in 1871, and probably, next to the "Origin of Species," is best known. Darwin has been elected a member of many British and foreign scientific societies, and has been honored in most of the countries of Europe for his scientific attainments.

ANDERSONVILLE'S KEEPER.

MR. PLEASANT, IOWA.

When was Wirz, the fiend who had charge of the Union soldiers at Andersonville, executed, and where?
EX-SOLDIER.

Answer.—Henry Wirz was hanged at Washington Nov. 10, 1865.

LOSSES IN THE SLAVERY WAR.

MIRABILE, Mo.

Please answer the following: How great a sacrifice of life did this Government sustain in the late rebellion, according to official reports: 1. On the Union side. 2. Number killed. 3. Number died of disease. 4. On the rebel side. 5. Number killed. 6. Number died of disease. 7. Also the greatest number killed in any one engagement?

ELIAS LANEFORD.

Answer.—From the official reports of the War Department the following facts are taken: 1. The aggregate of troops furnished for all periods of service—from three months to three years' time—was 2,859,132; reduced to a uniform three years standard, the whole number of troops amounted to 2,320,272. 2. The number killed in battle, according to the report of the Provost Marshal General in 1866, was 61,362. 3. The number of those who died of wounds was 34,727; died of disease 183,287; total died, 279,376; total deserted, 199,105. 4. The Adjutant General of the rebel army, in a statement made since the close of the war, estimated that the entire available rebel force capable of active service at 600,000; of this number not more than 400,000 were enrolled at any one time, and the rebel States had never in the field at once more than 200,000 men. This is the statement made by Carter. 5 and 6. The number of rebel soldiers who died of wounds or disease, was 133,821 a state-

ment which in the nature of the case is but partial; and the deserters numbered 104,428, also a partial statement. 7. The great struggle between General Grant and General Lee in the Wilderness was attended by immense losses to the Union forces and to the rebels. For the particulars of this sanguinary conflict, the best histories should be consulted, as figures give but an imperfect idea of the contest, and the losses inflicted.

PANICS.

Please give your readers some account of the financial panics of 1837, 1857, and 1873.

TELLER.

Answer.—In May, 1837, the New York banks suspended, and the crash, which had threatened for some time, came to the country. This disastrous event was followed by other failures, many business establishments were forced to close, and even States became bankrupt. Farm products fell greatly in price, credit was a byword, and the finances of the Government were in such shape that the President of the United States could not always get his salary when it was due. This was about the time when the National debt amounted to only a nominal sum. The panic of 1857 was opened by the failure of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company. Many banks in all the States were obliged to suspend, and certain kinds of paper were abroad which proved to be worthless. The panic of 1873 was inaugurated in September by the failure of Jay Cooke & Co., of Philadelphia. The effects of this last financial hurricane are too well known to need recital here. Various causes have been attributed to these financial crises, almost all writers agreeing, however, that reckless speculation, growing extravagance, and the carelessness with which debts were contracted were among the leading ones.

THE BIG TREES OF CALIFORNIA.

RAPIDAN, Minn.

What kind of wood do we find in the Big Trees of California? How large is the largest one in diameter and height?

MRS. F. L. SPENCER.

Answer.—The Big Trees of Calaveras and Mariposa Counties, in California, belong to the same genus as the common redwood. This giant of the Sierras is not a handsome tree, either when young or aged; the branches are short, the spray less graceful than the coast redwood, the leaves small and awl-shaped, but the cones are several times larger, and the wood is of a duller reddish hue. It seems these monarchs of the forest were first seen by white men in the spring of 1852, when a hunter named Dowd reached Calaveras Grove, and later conducted a party of miners to the locality where the big trees grew. In the several groves where they have been found, there are many trees from 275 to 325 feet high, and from 25 to 34 feet in diameter. The area of Mariposa Grove is two miles square, and it contains 427 of the monster trees. The largest in the Calaveras Grove is "The Keystone State," and is 325 high, and its girth six feet from the ground is 45 feet. There are some in the Mariposa Grove which are not so high, but which have a greater circumference. "The Grizzly

Giant," for example, being 93 feet at the ground, and over 64 eleven feet above. Some dozen miles south of the Mariposa Grove is the Fresno Grove, which is said to contain about 600 trees, the largest 81 feet in circumference; while about fifty miles north of the Calaveras in Placer County, a small grove has been discovered. Careful computations have been made of the ages of these trees, and some cautious scientists admit, in regard to one of them, that "its age cannot have exceeded 1,300 years!"

HENRY CLAY—"ROCK ME TO SLEEP."

1. Why was it said that Clay was "in the line of succession?" 2. Also, please give the name of the author of "Rock Me to Sleep."

VAIL, Iowa.

KATIE E. HUCKSTEP.

Answer.—1. Thomas Jefferson was Secretary of State in Washington's administration, and became President of the United States afterward. James Madison held the same office under Jefferson, and became President; James Monroe followed as the head of the State Department in Madison's administration, and succeeded to the Presidency; John Quincy Adams was Secretary of State for Monroe, and followed to the White House, and Henry Clay was Secretary of State for Adams, and was, therefore, said to be "in the line of succession" when he was a candidate against Andrew Jackson in 1832. 2. The author of "Rock Me to Sleep" is Mrs. Elizabeth Akers. The following stanzas of the beautiful poem are given for the benefit of those who may have an interest in the query:

"Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight,
Make me a child again, just for to-night!
Mother, come back from the echoless shore,
Take me again to your heart, as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care;
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair,
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep—
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

"Mother, dear mother, the years have been long
Since last I was hushed by your lullaby song.
Sing them again—to my soul it shall seem
Womanhood's years have been only a dream;
Clasp to your arms in a loving embrace,
With your soft, light lashes just sweeping my face;
Never hereafter to wake or to weep—
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!"

DOUGLAS A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

I have had a discussion as to whether Stephen A. Douglas was not a candidate for President before more than one national convention. Please state the facts.

CHICAGO.

YOUNG POLITICIAN.

Answer.—Senator Douglas was named as a prominent and powerful candidate for the Presidency in two national conventions previous to that of 1860, when he received the nomination at Baltimore. The Democratic Convention met at Baltimore in 1852, when he ran a close race for a time with Cass and Buchanan, during thirty-four ballots, when on the thirty-fifth Franklin Pierce was first named, and received the nomination on the forty-eighth ballot. In 1856, the Democratic National Convention assembled at Cincinnati, and there was another contest between Buchanan, Pierce, Douglas, and Cass, the vote for the latter, however, being very

small. On the sixteenth ballot Buchanan received 168 votes and Douglas 121, and on the following ballot, the "bachelor President" received 296, and was nominated. The contest at Charleston and Baltimore, in 1860, resulted in the nomination of Senator Douglas by the "regular convention."

LAST SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION.

I saw a statement not long ago that it is now over fifty years since the last signer of the great Declaration of Independence died. Please state who he was, and when he died.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.

M. T. K.

Answer.—Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Md., the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, died Nov. 14, 1832. He was born at Annapolis, Md., Sept. 20, 1737, and had, therefore, at the time of his death reached the ripe age of 95 years. Much of his early life was spent abroad, where he was educated, and in 1764 he returned to America, and when the Revolution began was very wealthy. Early he became a prominent actor in Maryland's affairs, and was subsequently chosen to the Colonial Congress. Up to the year 1810 he was identified with public interests, and then he retired from active service, and passed the remaining years of his life in peaceful pursuits.

THE MICHIGAN-OHIO CONTROVERSY.

Please give an account of the border difficulties between Michigan and Ohio, to settle which and indemnify the former State, the General Government ceded to her the Upper Peninsula.

KENOSHA, Wis.

S. LEONARD.

Answer.—In the year 1835 a controversy arose between Michigan and Ohio in regard to the boundary-line and the right to a strip of land to which both laid claim. The convention held at Detroit that year formed a constitution by which Michigan claimed the territory in question, while Ohio had a similar claim. At first there was danger of bloodshed, but the excitement subsided, and the matter was adjusted. In June, 1836, Congress passed an act admitting Michigan into the Union on condition that she relinquish her claim to the disputed territory, in place of which the region known as "the Upper Peninsula" was given her. These conditions were rejected by one convention, but accepted by another held in December, 1836; and in January, 1837, Michigan was admitted into the Union.

"HUMANITIES."

I notice in some college catalogues the word "Humanities" is used. Please explain its meaning in that connection, as I think it would be of interest to some of your readers.

FORT WAYNE, Ind.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Humanities are those branches of education or study, says one authority, which are included in what are called polite or elegant learning, as languages, grammar, philology, and poetry, with what pertains to what is called polite literature, including the ancient classics. The name implies that the study of these branches, in opposition to the physical sciences, which especially develop the intellectual faculties, has a tendency to humanize man, to cultivate particularly those faculties which distin-

gush him as man, in all his relations, social and moral, that is, which make him a truly cultured man.

"THE MAIN-TRUCK."

MENDOTA, ILL.

Who was the author of the poem that used to be in our school-readers, and commenced, "Old Ironsides at anchor lay?" It is a story about the boy who climbed up the rigging and who jumped off the main-truck into the sea to save his life.

READER.

Answer.—The poem was written by George P. Morris, an American poet and journalist, who was born in the year 1802. He was connected with various literary journals, but his fame chiefly rests upon his lyric poetry. Several of his short poems have become very popular, and have been read by a large and admiring circle. The song entitled, "Woodman, Spare that Tree," is probably the best known. It is safe to say that millions of copies of this song have been printed and sold in the United States.

THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT.

MCGREGOR, IOWA.

Did President Andrew Johnson oppose the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, as has been sometimes stated?

READER.

Answer.—The fourteenth amendment was proposed in 1866 by Congress for the ratification of the several States. June 8 it passed the United States Senate by a vote of 33 to 11, and June 13 it passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 120 to 32. President Johnson disapproved of it, but it was ratified by the necessary number of States, and became a part of the Constitution July 28, 1868.

JEFF DAVIS A CANDIDATE.

PERCIVAL, IOWA.

There is a dispute here on the subject as to whether Jefferson Davis was a candidate in the Charleston convention in the year 1859 or '60. Please decide it, as we agreed to leave it to you.

F. FOX.

Answer.—The name of Jeff Davis had for years been frequently mentioned as a strong one to be presented to the Democratic party in National convention assembled. In the summer of 1858 he made a tour of the Eastern States, addressing meetings at Boston, New York, and elsewhere, and by many was regarded as a candidate. Davis' name came up in the Charleston convention, but he received only a small vote. Greeley, in his "American Conflict," remarks that Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, received on the first ballot $1\frac{1}{2}$ votes, and one vote on the fifty-seventh ballot.

ORIGIN OF BASE BALL.

CHICAGO.

Please tell us when the first base ball club was organized and something about the origin of the "national game."

AMATEUR PLAYER.

Answer.—The first base ball club was the Knickerbocker, of New York, that is, the first one to sustain a permanent existence in the United States. It was started in the year 1845, and has continued its existence, we believe, ever since. The game, however, did not become the national one until many years afterward.

THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

DES MOINES, IOWA.

Please give the names of the places where the Continental Congress met from 1774 to 1785.

PATRIOT.

Answer.—The following is a list of the places

where the Continental Congress met and the dates of meeting:

Sept. 5, 1774, and May 10, 1775, at Philadelphia, Pa.

Dec. 20, 1776, at Baltimore, Md.

March 4, 1777, at Philadelphia, Pa.

Sept. 26, 1777, at Lancaster, Pa.

Sept. 30, 1777, at York, Pa.

July 2, 1778, at Philadelphia, Pa.

June 30, 1783, at Princeton, N. J.

Nov. 26, 1783, at Annapolis, Md.

Jan. 11, 1785, at New York.

WHY CALLED "COMMENCEMENT."

LAFAYETTE, IND.

When students are about to graduate from a college or seminary, or some institution of learning, the day when they graduate is called "commencement day." Why is it called "commencement" when it is not that, but the close of school or college or seminary?

STUDENT.

Answer.—In the United States, commencement, as this inquirer states, denotes the occasion on which degrees are conferred by colleges and universities upon their graduates. This takes place generally in June or July, and closes the scholastic year, so that the name in this respect appears to be a misnomer. It refers however, to the beginning of the student's independent career, after being released from tutelage. "The life of school ends, but the school of life commences."

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

MAYNARD, IOWA.

Please publish the number of feet fall in the Mississippi River from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico? Also, from Lake Itasca to St. Louis, and from New Orleans to the Gulf of Mexico?

A. L. EVANS.

Answer.—Lake Itasca is 1,575 feet above sea level. One of the five small streams that fall into Itasca, coming from the West, and distinguished from the others by its more abundant waters and greater length, is 1,680 feet above the sea. At St. Louis it is 332 feet above the sea, and opposite New Orleans it is $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the sea level.

A QUESTION OF POPULATION.

BRISTOL STATION, ILL.

Please answer two questions: 1. How much larger is Chicago than Detroit? 2. How much larger population has Illinois than Michigan?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. According to the last census Chicago had a population of 503,304, and Detroit 116,342. 2. The population of Illinois, as reported by the census office, is 3,078,769, and Michigan 1,636,331.

THE GREAT COMMONER.

DAVENPORT, IOWA.

What American statesman was known as "The Great Commoner?"

INQUIRER.

Answer.—Henry Clay was called "The Great Commoner" by those who admired and loved him.

QUEEN ARTEMISIA—CRIMEAN WAR

CLARENDON, ARK.

1. Please give a description of Queen Artemisia, who commanded a fleet in the service of Xerxes. Did she not, through revenge, haul down her colors and sink a vessel of a brother officer in sight of Xerxes himself? 2. Did the Crimean war really grow out of the simple question whether the Greek or Latin sects should have control of the Holy Sepulcher?

DIXIE.

Answer.—1. Queen Artemisia was the daughter of Lygdamis, and succeeded her husband in the

kingdom of Halicarnassus, a dependency of the Persian Empire. She took part in person in the expedition of Xerxes against the Greeks, and fitted out five ships, with which she distinguished herself in the sea fight near Salamis, before Christ 480. Xerxes was so well pleased with the valor and skill she displayed that he made the well-known remark that the men had all acted like women in the fight, and the women like men. The Athenians were indignant that a woman should appear in arms against them, and offered a large reward to any one who should take her prisoner. When closely pursued by the Greeks she escaped by the stratagem of attacking one of the Persian vessels, whereupon the Athenians concluded she was an ally, and gave up the chase. A story, which the best authorities hold to be without foundation, is told to the effect that she loved a youth of Abydos, named Dardanus, but, enraged at his neglect of her, had his eyes put out while he was asleep. As a punishment for this, the gods ordered her, by an oracle, to take the famous, but rather mythical, lovers' leap from the Leucadian promontory. This Queen Artemisia is a different person from that ruler of the same name who was the sister and wife of Mausolus, King of Caria, to whose memory she raised the famous mausoleum, reckoned among the seven wonders of the world.

2. In regard to the cause of the Crimean war, we quote from "The Student's Hume" as follows: "The Russian Czars had long looked with a covetous eye on Constantinople, and had long waited for a favorable opportunity to seize it. Religion, so often the pretext of secular ambition, was made the ground of strife; and an obscure quarrel of some Greek and Latin monks about the holy places of Palestine, with which the Turks had not meddled, served to excuse the attempt to appropriate an empire. The Emperor Nicholas demanded on this ground the control over all members of the Greek Church residing in the Turkish dominions—a demand naturally rejected by the Porte. In consequence of this refusal, Russian troops crossed the Pruth, in Italy, and took possession of the principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, but were defeated by Omar Pasha at the battle of Ottenitza. Turkey claimed British aid on the faith of treaties, and Napoleon III. hoped to establish his new throne by cordially uniting with Great Britain to repress the ambition of Russia. Austria and Prussia stood aloof."

THE BLUE LAWS ON SMOKING.

CALUMET, Mich.
Please settle a dispute. Was there ever a law in the State of Massachusetts, or in the city of Boston, prohibiting smoking cigars or pipes by the people on the streets? If so, what year, and if it is now in force?

OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—There were some very stringent laws in Massachusetts against the use of tobacco in public, and while the penalties were not so heavy, yet they were apparently rigidly enforced for a time. We quote from a law passed in October, 1632, as follows: "It is ordered, that no person shall take any tobacco publicly, under

paine of punishment; also that every one shall pay 1*d.* for every time hee is convicted of takeing tobacco in any place, and that any Assistant shall have power to receive evidence and give order for levyeing of it, as also to give order for the levyeing of the officer's charge. This order to begin the 10th of November next." In September, 1634, we discover another law on the same article: "Victualers, or keepers of an Ordinary, shall not suffer any tobacco to be taken in their howses, under the penalty of 5*s.* for every offence, to be payde by the victualler, and 12*d.* by the party that takes it. Further, it is ordered, that noe person shall take tobacco publicly, under the penalty of 2*s.* 6*d.*, nor privately, in his owne house, or in the howse of another, before strangers, and that two or more shall not take it together, anywhere, under the aforesaid penalty for every offence." In November, 1637, the record runs: "All former laws against tobacco are repealed, and tobacco is sett at liberty;" but in September, 1638, "the [General] Court, finding that since the repealing of the former laws against tobacco, the same is more abused then before, it hath therefore ordered, that no man shall take any tobacco in the fields, except in his journey, or at meale times, under paine of 12*d.* for every offence; nor shall take any tobacco in (or so near) any dwelling house, barne, corne or hay rick, as may likely indanger the firing thereof, upon paine of 10*s.* for every offence; nor shall take any tobacco in any inne or common victualing house, except in a private roome there, so as neither the master of the same house nor any other guests there shall take offence thereat, which if they do, then such person is fourthwith to forbear, upon paine of 12*s.* 6*d.* for every offence. Noeman shall kindle fyre by gunpowder, for takeing tobacco, except in his journey, upon paine of 12*d.* for every offence."

LORD NELSON.

UNION CENTER, Kan.
Please give a sketch of the life of Lord Nelson, and who he was and what nationality.

JOHN H. ULEBY.

Answer.—Horatio Nelson, Viscount Nelson of the Nile, Duke of Bronte, was born at Burnham Thorpe, Norfolkshire, England, Sept. 29, 1758, and was killed in the battle of Trafalgar, Oct. 21, 1805. He was the fourth son of the Rev. Edmund Nelson, rector of the parish, and at the age of 12 received an appointment as midshipman. His rise was rapid, becoming a lieutenant in 1777, post captain in 1779, given command of a man-of-war, served in the West Indies, and was otherwise actively engaged for many years. Afterward he commanded a small squadron on the coast of Corsica, which co-operated with Paoli, and took Bastia in May, 1794; he aided in the siege of Calvi, where he lost an eye; participated in Admiral Hotham's victory over the French squadron March 15, 1795. He also took the island of Elba, while in October, 1797, he blockaded Leghorn. Nelson was made Commodore in

1796, and the following year he distinguished himself under Admiral Jervis in the naval victory over the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent. In April, 1797, he was appointed Rear Admiral, and took part in the blockade and attempted bombardment of Cadiz, and in the unsuccessful attack on Santa Cruz, Tenerife, in July of the same year, where he lost an arm. Then he was made a Knight of the Bath, and received a pension of £1,000. He took command of the Mediterranean squadron, off Toulon, in May, 1798, and followed Napoleon's expedition to Egypt and destroyed the French fleet at the Bay of Aboukeer, generally called the battle of the Nile, and was wounded in the engagement, and for that victory was made Baron Nelson of the Nile, and received an additional pension of £2,000. He proceeded to Naples in September, occupied Leghorn in November, aided the government in resisting the French invasion and in recovering the capital after it was taken, but stained his reputation by violating the capitulation concluded June 23, 1799, and hanging Caraccioli, the insurgent Admiral. He was also made Duke of Bronte, Sicily, aided in the siege of Malta, and returned to England in 1800, where he was received with great popular enthusiasm. In January, 1801, he was made Vice Admiral, and was second in command of the Baltic fleet in the naval battle of Copenhagen, April 2, and for his services therein was made Viscount. In July he took command of the squadron for the defense of Britain against the contemplated French invasion, and attacked the French flotilla off Boulogne Aug. 15. After a season of rest, he was appointed Commander of the Mediterranean fleet in May, 1803, blockaded Toulon, and unsuccessfully pursued a French fleet to the West Indies in May, 1805, returning to England the following July. He again took command of the Mediterranean fleet, and totally defeated the combined French and Spanish squadrons off Cape Trafalgar, losing his life in the engagement. He was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral Jan. 8, 1806, and it is said his funeral was the most magnificent ever seen in England.

EMANCIPATION.

URBANA, ILL.

Please tell us when and how the slaves in Virginia and Louisiana, who were exceptions in Lincoln's emancipation proclamation, were liberated: or are they still in bondage?

READER.

Answer.—The emancipation proclamation, as is well known was part of a series of measures adopted by President Lincoln looking toward the blotting out the foul stain of slavery. The final proclamation was issued Jan. 1, 1863, and, as this inquirer suggests, made some exceptions. The fact is stated by an eminent authority that "this proclamation had no very marked effect upon the relation of slavery beyond the lines of the Federal army, but it gave consistency and unity to the action of the Federal commanders, and it facilitated and hastened the incorporation of freedmen and other colored persons in the Federal armies." On June

23, 1864, all laws for the rendition of fugitive slaves to their masters were repealed. On Jan. 1, 1865, the final vote was taken in Congress, submitting to the States for their approval and ratification the thirteenth amendment to the constitution: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction." On Dec. 18, 1865, the Secretary of State issued his proclamation declaring that this amendment had been approved by the Legislatures of Illinois, Rhode Island, Michigan, Maryland, New York, West Virginia, Maine, Kansas, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Missouri, Nevada, Louisiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Vermont, Tennessee, Arkansas, Connecticut, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia, in all twenty-seven of the thirty-six States, and was consequently adopted.

CARDINAL RICHELIEU.

RAYMOND, Racine Co., Wis.

Please give a sketch of Richelieu. Who is the author? A. E. WALKER.

Answer.—The full name of the great ecclesiastic and politician was Armand Jean Duplessis de Richelieu. He was a native of Paris, having been born there Sept. 5, 1585. His education was conducted with a view of preparing him for the military profession in the College de Navarre, but this idea was abandoned and a prospect was held out of succeeding to the bishopric of Lucon, he studied theology, and was consecrated Bishop April 16, 1607, or when he was scarcely 22 years of age. On his election as deputy of the clergy to the States General in 1614, allied himself with the Queen mother and Regent, Maria di Medici, was chosen her almoner, and became a member of the Council of State. Trouble arose between Louis XIII. and his mother, and Richelieu retired with the latter to Blois, but succeeded finally in bringing about a reconciliation. In 1622 he became Cardinal, and re-entered the Council of State, soon after being made Prime Minister, which office he filled to his death. His foreign policy centered in the idea of humiliating Austria. During what may be termed his reign in France, his career is in a measure the history of Austria, Spain, France, and Germany. He completed what Louis XI. had begun, namely, the establishment of the absolute authority of the kingly power. His government was marked by an almost uninterrupted series of conspiracies among the feudal nobility of the realm, headed by the Queen mother, whose favor had turned into a deadly hatred by the Queen herself, Anne of Austria, by Gaston of Orleans, brother of the King, and by the royal princes. He was a master of intrigue, and his retainers kept him thoroughly acquainted with all conspiracies, whose projectors were punished with merciless severity. At one time the King, who felt a deep antipathy toward him, had consented

to Richelieu's dismissal, when the Cardinal forced himself into the presence of Louis, changed him in a moment, and reappeared among his enemies with great dramatic effect and more powerful than ever. One writer strongly puts it that "the scaffold, the dungeon, and exile were the end of all resistance to him." Richelieu also contended against the Huronots, whose principal stronghold, La Rochelle, his forces besieged and carried, four-fifths of its inhabitants having perished by famine and sword. Richelieu greatly improved Paris, and showed great interest in literature and art. He died at Paris Dec. 4, 1642. The drama "Richelieu" was written by Bulwer-Lytton.

ADDRESSES ON ENVELOPES.

PORT YATES, D. T.
I have lately seen letters, the envelopes of which were addressed as follows:

Chicago,
Ill.
Mr. John Brown.

I wish to ask whether this method is used to any extent, and why it would not in these days of fast mail be worthy of general use? It seems to me more logical than the common form. The mail clerk on the train only wants to know the place of destination of a letter, not the person to whom it is sent. If the town and State were written in bold characters, and the name of the person in small, the agent's eye would more readily gain the knowledge desired. The main objection I see is the slight confusion it would be to the persons it would benefit most, until in general use.

EDGAR F. LOWE.

Answer.—The plan suggested by this correspondent is one which has long been urged by progressive persons who have endeavored to get the public to see and act upon the advantages of the new system. It has, however, met with very indifferent success thus far. Out of every thousand letters and postal cards received by THE INTER OCEAN there is not more than one written as this inquirer suggests. And the proportion is about the same, or smaller, when we come to inquire at the Postoffice. It is admitted even by those who have not adopted the new plan that it has many advantages, but custom has given the old way hosts of followers who continue to address their letters with the name of the person or firm first, and the city, State, or county last.

GENERAL ROUSSEAU.

BUFFALO HART, III.
Please give a short sketch of Major General Rousseau.
JOHN E. CONSTANT.

Answer.—General Lovell Harrison Rousseau was born in Lincoln County, Ky., Aug. 4, 1818, and, losing his father when he was 13 years of age, educated himself, and part of the time worked at road-making. He studied law at Louisville and was admitted to the bar at Bloomfield, Ind., in 1841. From 1841 to 1845 he was a member of the Legislature, and entered the army in the Mexican war, and was a Captain in the Second Indiana Regiment at Buena Vista. In the year 1847 he was chosen State Senator by the Whigs, and in 1849 returned to Louisville, where he took high rank as a criminal lawyer. The year of President Lincoln's election he was a member of the Kentucky Senate, and took a

bold and decisive stand for the Union, and when the slavery war came he raised two Kentucky regiments, which he was obliged to camp on the Indiana side of the Ohio. In September, 1861, he crossed the river to protect Louisville, and Oct. 1, of the same year he was made a Brigadier General. He was attached to General Buell's army and fought at Shiloh. For the part he took in the battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862, he was made Major General of Volunteers. He was conspicuous at the battle of Stone River, and was in the Tullahoma campaign, in the movement at Chattanooga, and the battle of Chickamauga. In 1864 he commanded the District of Tennessee, and made his famous raid into Alabama, destroying the Montgomery and Atlanta lines of railroad, and in December held the important post of Fort Rosecranz against Hood. He was made Brevet Major General, U. S. A., for gallant and meritorious services in the war, and was Brigadier General U. S. A. in March, 1867, and assigned to duty in Alaska, and subsequently commanded in New Orleans, where he died Jan. 8, 1869.

MUTILATED SILVER COIN.

HODGES' PARK, ILL.

Please inform me if the United States Treasurer has issued an order discounting all coins with holes punched in them. If so, please state the amount of discount on each piece of coin. OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The Treasury Department has been in a quandary in regard to what the best plan is to put a stop to the abuse which has crept in since specie became so plentiful. The law as it now stands prescribes the rule for the redemption and reception by weight of gold coin only. A circular letter is now being prepared by Secretary Windom defining the position of the government on this question. The letter will say that there is no provision of law for the redemption of mutilated silver coin of the United States at the Treasury, but officers may refuse to receive it when clearly unfit for circulation. All such coin will be bought by weight at the mints as bullion, and probably any bullion dealers will purchase the coins as bullion at the ruling rate, when the only reduction would be the loss in weight. Attention will also be called to the Revised Statutes, which make it an offense to mutilate coins of the United States, punishable by fine and imprisonment. Congress will probably be asked at the next session to pass a law making it an offense to pass or receive such coins, to check the abuse.

CHARLES STUART PARNELL.

CHICAGO.

Please state the birthplace of Mr. Charles Stuart Parnell.
IGNATIUS REDMOND.

Answer.—The Parnell family were founded in Ireland by the removal there of an English clergyman, who was the father of Parnell, the poet, contemporaneous with Pope. A recent history of the family states that a later descendant was "the last Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer." It is said that he received the offer of a peerage if he would cast his vote in favor of

the act of union, but he refused to do so, and the "loss of his high office came simultaneously with the loss of Irish liberty." His countrymen gave him the name of "Incorruptible." Another was Sir Henry, a member of Lord Melbourne's Cabinet, and an earnest advocate of Catholic emancipation, and was raised to the peerage as Baron Conington. This gentleman's younger brother, William Parnell, the grandfather of the Home-ruler, married a daughter of the Hon. Hugh Howard, cousin of the Duke of Norfolk. Commodore Charles Stuart, of the American navy, was of Irish descent, and had one daughter. At Washington this lady met John Henry Parnell, who was traveling in America, and they were married, and at Avondale, Wicklow County, Charles Stuart Parnell was born in June, 1846.

LONG BRANCH.

CRETE, Neb.

Please give a description of Long Branch.

J. H.

Answer.—The site of Long Branch is upon a bluff which affords a splendid drive overlooking the sea. The climate is as delightful as that in any part of New Jersey, which is held to be a high compliment. The interior of the country is fertile and pleasant. Hotel-keepers say there are no mosquitoes, and there are no salt marshes or sandy plains in the neighborhood. The sea-bathing facilities are fine. Long Branch is situated on the shore of the Atlantic. The bluff is probably without a parallel on the coast; and the principal avenue, on which are the leading hotels and some fine cottages, runs along the bluff beneath which is the beach. Further back are numerous elegant residences, while the old village, containing the permanent residents, is about a mile from the shore. There is a race-track near at hand, where fleet-footed horses are put at their best steps. Pleasure Bay is one of the most delightful boating localities in the vicinity of the Branch, and is reached by a short drive of a mile and a half, and there oysters, crabs, clam-bakes, etc., are served up in tempting style. The Branch is only a short distance from New York and Philadelphia, and is on that account a well-patronized resort for the merchant princes of those commercial centers.

"OWEN MEREDITH."

HOLLAND, Iowa.

Please give a short biographical sketch of Owen Meredith, the poet.

J. H. QUICK.

Answer.—"Owen Meredith" is the nom de plume of Robert, only son of Sir Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer Lytton. He was born May 8, 1831, educated at Harrow and under private tutors in England, studied at Rome for a time, and in 1849 entered the diplomatic service as attaché and private secretary to his uncle, Sir Henry Bulwer, then Minister at Washington. Subsequently he held similar posts at Florence and Paris, at The Hague, and was transferred to Vienna in 1860. He was afterward Secretary of Legation at Copenhagen, Athens, Lisbon, and Madrid; and in 1868 he was made Secretary of Embassy at Vienna, and 1872 at Paris. In the year 1856 his first poems were published at

London, and were entitled "Clytemnestra, and Other Minor Poems," and attracted attention to his pseudonym of "Owen Meredith." In 1860 "Lucille," one of his best known poems, appeared. He has written much in prose and verse.

THE DEPOSITION OF DEW.

DESMOINES, Iowa.

What is the theory of the deposition of dew?

F. B. H.

Answer.—Dew is produced by the condensation of watery vapor from the atmosphere. Its deposition is, however, unaccompanied by the appearance of any visible mist. Such mist appears when the condensation takes place within the body of the air itself, and is then called "fog" in the lower regions of the atmosphere, and "cloud" in the higher. Dew occurs only at the surface of contact with solids, the air above remaining clear. The deposit of dew is caused by the cooling of the bodies bedewed, and this takes place in consequence of the radiation of heat into open space, without any equivalent return. It is commonly formed at night upon the leaves of grass or trees and other objects, especially when the sky is clear, so as to allow sufficient radiation of heat from them to cool their surfaces, and consequently the layer of air next them, below the point of saturation, or dew-point. The moisture which collects upon the surface of a cold body, as a pitcher of water, standing in a warm room, and that which collects on a window pane when it is breathed upon, are strictly examples of the deposition of dew.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY—ALASKA.

FAIRFIELD, Iowa.

1. How many inhabitants has Washington Territory? 2. Will wheat grow in Alaska? How cold is it during the winter on the South coast of Alaska?

DANIEL STEPHENSON.

Answer.—1. According to the last census, Washington Territory has a population of 75,120, of whom 67,349 are whites, 357 colored, 3,227 Chinese, and 4,187 Indians, who are civilized or taxed. 2. It is recorded by those who have visited Alaska, that in the more hospitable portions good oats, barley, and root crops can be raised without much difficulty. 3. The town of Sitka is said to be the rainiest place in the world outside of the tropics, and the number of rainy days in each year varies from a minimum of 190 to a maximum of 285; the mean average temperature is 44.07 degrees, but the average temperature in winter is proportionately much higher than in summer, being only a little below freezing point, while the excessive rains in summer make that season unduly cold. Ice fit for consumption scarcely ever forms at Sitka.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH—MUSIC AND PAINTING.

JOHNSTON, Wis.

1. Was St. John's Church, Chester, England, destroyed by fire? 2. Which is considered the finer accomplishment, music or painting? A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. The "Satchel Guide," published only a short time ago, thus refers to the church: "St. John's Church is even more ancient than the

cathedral, having been built in the eleventh century. The nave is an admirable specimen of Normanwork." No mention is made of its ever having been destroyed by fire. 2. Most persons, especially ladies, regard music as much a part of their education as any other study. Painting is not so general. Which is the finer we would not undertake to say, no more than to compare Milton with Shakespeare.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

WINFIELD, Kan.
Please give an estimate of the five leading exports and imports of the country; that is, what they are and their money value for the past year. W.M.H.

Answer.—From the published reports on commerce and navigation we take the following figures for the fiscal year ending 1880, the latest returns at hand. The first list is in exports;

Cotton, raw.....	\$211,535,905
Wheat.....	190,546,305
Corn, Indian.....	54,279,608
Bacon and hams.....	50,987,623
Petroleum and coal oil.....	36,218,625
The imports were as follows:	
Sugar.....	\$74,717,935
Coffee.....	60,360,769
Iron and steel manufactures.....	53,714,008
Silks.....	44,213,389
Woolens.....	33,911,093

ARNOLD WINKELREID.

CORNELL, Union Co., Iowa.
Who was Arnold Winkelreid? Please give a short sketch of his life. J.S.S.

Answer.—He was a Swiss patriot whose heroism decided the battle of Sempach, July 6, 1386, when a large Austrian army was arrayed against a devoted band of Swiss numbering about 1,300. The Swiss had failed to penetrate the line of the enemy, when Winkelreid grasped all the Austrian pikes within his reach, and buried them in his body and bore them to the earth, while over him his compatriots rushed into the opening, and defeated the Austrians with terrible slaughter. A monument was erected to Winkelreid at Stanz, canton of Unterwalden, in the year 1835. It was upon this heroic act of the patriot that the poet sings:

"Make way for liberty," he cried,
"Make way for liberty," and died.

ELECTING THE PRESIDENT.

CHICAGO.
To settle a dispute please state can the President of the United States be elected rightfully by a minority vote of the people; that is, can he have a majority of electoral votes and still have a minority of a popular vote? FRANK McMAHON.

Answer.—Yes. John Quincy Adams did not receive a majority of the popular vote, and yet was elected President; James K. Polk did not receive a majority of the popular vote, the same is true of Zachary Taylor, James Buchanan, Abraham Lincoln (the first election in 1860), Rutherford B. Hayes, and James A. Garfield.

ENGLAND'S CONSTITUTION.

WAUKESHA, Wis.
Has England a written constitution? QUERIST.

Answer.—An able writer on the constitution and constitutional law says: "In one important respect England differs conspicuously from most other countries. Her constitution is to a large extent *unwritten*, using the word in much

the same sense as we speak of unwritten law. Its rules can be found in no written document, but depend, as so much of English law does, on precedent modified by a constant process of interpretation."

THE ISLAND OF NEW ORLEANS.

DURAND, Wis.
What city and isle of New Orleans is referred to in the treaty of Paris at the end of the French and Indian war in 1763? W.E. ALKIRE.

Answer.—The city and island of New Orleans, in Louisiana. The city is on an island, near the mouth of the Mississippi River.

FRENCH AND SPANISH PARTIES.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.
1. What are the ideas of parties in the French Chamber of Deputies, their comparative strength, and their leaders? 2. What are the ideas of parties in the Spanish Cortes, their comparative strength, and their leaders? B.

Answer.—1. The elections which have recently taken place in France show conclusively that the republican sentiment in that country is strong, and growing more intelligent, and that the anti-republican element will cut no great figure there, at least, for some time to come. The French Legislature comprises two houses—a Senate elected by a complex system of restricted suffrage, and a Chamber of Deputies chosen by universal suffrage. Each body elect their own presiding officer. When these houses meet in joint session to elect a President of the Republic or to amend the Constitution, they form what is called the National Assembly. In the Chamber of Deputies the Republican party forms four groups, namely: The Left Center comprises the moderate or conservative Liberals; the Pure Left, to which the Ministry belong; the Advanced Left, and the Extreme Left, or the Radicals. The Extreme Left members are led by Clemenceau. The Left Center members are those represented by such men as Ferry and Waddington. Gambetta is what may be described as a thorough-going Republican, and is to be classed among those who are desirous of constitutional reform, and who are now called Opportunists. On the Right the lines of division are those of the reactionary portions. The Right Center naturally includes the more moderate men. In a certain sense the late elections have destroyed the various groups of the Left, merging detachments from each into what is known as the Republican Union, and events, which cast their shadows before, point to the formation of a strong ministerial party made up of the several branches of the Left. This ministerial party is to support a ministry with Gambetta at the head. The Republicans have recently made such gains that the Bourbons, "who never learn anything, and never forget anything," and those of that stripe will not imperil or weaken the work of the liberal, progressive elements, who have an overwhelming majority. 2. In Spain those in power are known as the Ministerialists or Liberal Loyalists, with Count Sagasta at their head. The old Conservatives are led by Castillo, while Zurillo leads

the Radicals. Castelar, the great Liberal, whose name is so familiar to Americans, leads the Moderate Republicans, and Moret the Independent Democrats. Sagasta's supporters are vigorous and aggressive, and have the assurance from Castelar and his associates that they—the Moderate Republicans—will range themselves with the Ministerialists when questions arise wherein the old Conservatives take issue with Sagasta and his party; or, in other words, as between the Conservatives and the Ministerialists, Castelar's party prefer the latter.

THE JACOBINS—AN "ENACTING CLAUSE."

KINGSBURY, Ind.
Please answer the following queries: 1. Explain fully the relation an enacting clause bears to a bill or law? 2. Give a brief history of the Jacobin clubs? 3. Has there been issued, as yet, a compendium of the tenth census? If so, how can it be obtained?

G. L. H.

Answer.—1. The "enacting clause" reads in Illinois as follows: "Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly." Then follow the sections of the act. If there were no enacting clause, the intelligent reader will at once see the "force" of the act. When an effort is made to "kill" a bill, a motion is offered to strike out the enacting clause. 2. The Jacobins were members of a political society founded in 1789 during the session of the States General at Versailles, by some deputies from Brittany. The society was called the Club Breton, but this was afterward changed to "Société des amis de la Constitution." When the Assembly and the King removed to Paris the club followed, and established itself in an old Dominican monastery in the Rue St. Honore. The French Dominicans were commonly called Jacobins, from the fact that a church dedicated to St. James (Latin, Jacobus—"James") had been given to them shortly after their settlement at Paris in the thirteenth century; and before a great while the name was adopted by the new club. There were many distinguished men among the members, and, as the opinions were spread abroad in the columns of a journal of their own, the influence of the club was very great. Every political question and every motion was debated there before being presented to the National Assembly. As the club grew more powerful its principles became radical, until, in the spring of 1790, Talleyrand, LaFayette, and many other moderate members withdrew, and founded the "Club of 1789." In nearly every town and village in France revolutionary societies on the Jacobin model were formed, and affiliated to the original club, whose orders they implicitly obeyed. In a short time the Jacobins dictated every government measure. In the revolutionary movements of June and August, 1792, the Jacobins were foremost, and then originated the revolutionary commune de Paris. Robespierre grew up through the Jacobins to be their most influential member. The revolution of 1794 witnessed the overthrow of the Jacobins, who

went down shortly after the fall of Robespierre. The fragments of the Jacobins endeavored to form some new clubs on the ruins of the old organization, but failed. Not long after the club was suspended, the monastery was destroyed. 3. Not up to date.

A STUDENT'S RIGHT TO VOTE.

CROMWELL, Union Co., Iowa.
Has a student of Harvard or any college a right to vote? If not, why? A student tells me they have not.
J. S. S.

Answer.—This question is one which has been decided by no less authority than the Supreme Court of Iowa. The test case which brought out this decision was substantially and briefly as follows: A student was attending an institution of learning in one of the cities of that State. When the time came for an election to be held in the city in which the institution was located, the student went to the polls and offered his ballot, but the judges of election declined to receive it, on the ground that the student was not a resident there, but was only living temporarily in the place where the institution was located, and that the place where he had resided previous to becoming a student in that city was his home, and there, if anywhere, was where he had the right to vote. The question is one of great importance, and cannot be decided by a simple negative or affirmative. The highest legal authorities admit the difficulties attending a decision and call attention to the point that much depends upon the intention of the citizen. The mere fact that a citizen takes his personal effects, or some of them, and goes from Illinois to Iowa, for example, with the intention of settling permanently in the latter State, provided he finds a suitable place there, does not make him cease to be a citizen of Illinois, and of a certain county, town, or voting district or precinct of that county, town, or voting place. The Supreme Court of the State of Illinois has decided that question. [Vide Wilkins vs. Marshall, 80th Illinois, page 77.] There have been many cases involving a student's right to vote in the place where is located the institution which he is attending. There are instances where, no doubt, students obtain a residence at or near their seats of learning, but, generally speaking, such persons are either without a home elsewhere, or else propose settling in the city whose colleges, seminaries, or universities they are attending. In some cases it is held by local authorities that if students pay the regular poll-tax, they were entitled to vote. This may be considered a safe plan, inasmuch as most students are supposed to have no more "filthy lucre" than they know what to do with, and might decline to bid any of it farewell, even to get a chance to vote.

A. T. STEWART.

BURLINGTON, IOWA.
When did A. T. Stewart die and when was his body stolen?
S. A.

Answer.—Alexander T. Stewart died at New York, April 10 1876, aged 73 years. The re-

mains were stolen from the family vault, in St. Mark's churchyard, New York, Nov. 6, 1878. The robbers made offers to return the remains if a sum something like \$250,000 were paid, but Judge Hilton refused, and the body has not yet been restored to the friends of the deceased.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

BELLEVUE, Idaho Territory.

1. Please publish a short account of the Baptist Church. 2. How is it governed? 3. Name a few leading newspapers of the denomination. 4. What is the name of the best history of the same?

C. L. MEYERS.

Answer.—1. The Baptist Church in the United States stands next to the Methodist Church as regards numerical strength, number of organizations, church sittings, and the number of those attached to their views. In the United States they first began in a very small way. In 1633 Roger Williams and John Clark introduced the doctrines of the denomination into Rhode Island, and "their history, for more than a century, in most of the colonies, is that of proscribed and banished men." The article on religious liberty in the amendments to the Constitution was introduced by the united efforts of the Baptists in 1789. It is reported that in the year 1762 there were 56 Baptist churches in America, in 1792 there were 1,000, in 1812 there were 2,433, and from that time the growth of the denomination in this country has been steady, out-running the increase of the population of the United States. 2. The churches are Congregational or Independent, in government; each manages its own affairs; councils are convened, sometimes to ordain men to the ministry, sometimes to try delinquents, but they are mostly advisory bodies. There are local and State associations, also, for fellowship and consultation. The denomination has its boards of publication, education, home and foreign missions, etc., and many of its ministers and laymen take high rank in the religious world for their intellectual and moral strength, and for the beneficent work they have supported. 3. The *Standard*, of Chicago, and the *Watchman*, of Boston, are two of the leading journals of the denomination. 4. Address the Rev. F. G. Thearle, American Baptist Publishing Society, No. 71 Randolph street, Chicago.

THE "X. Y. Z. MISSION."

DAVENPORT, Iowa.

Lately I read something about the "X. Y. Z. Mission." Please explain what it was, and tell us all about it.

HAWKEYE.

Answer.—It was an American mission appointed to go to France in 1797 and negotiate for peace. The mission consisted of Charles C. Pinckney, John Marshall, and Elbridge Gerry. It will be remembered that the troubles with France went on increasing after John Adams was elected President, and it was necessary, at the time, that an understanding should be arrived at, if possible, between America and the French. These ambassadors went to France, but were refused reception by that government, unless sums of money were first paid to the French officers. That was the time when

Pinckney made his famous reply: "Millions for defense, but not a cent for tribute." The envoys were treated in a very discourteous manner, and returned home without having effected anything. There seemed to be every prospect of another war. Washington was called from his quiet home in Virginia to take command of the army, and there were some sea fights between French and American vessels. But when Napoleon came into power in France, President Adams succeeded in making a treaty with him, and there was peace. The name of the mission in history arose from the fact that the suggestions concerning bribes to be paid to the French were made in letters over the signature "X. Y. Z." These letters were afterward obtained by England, and published throughout Europe.

WEIGHT OF BUSHELS.

PONTIAC, Ill.

Please state the number of feet in a bushel of corn in the ear, number of feet in a bushel of corn, shelled, and the number of feet in a bushel of wheat?

A READER.

Answer.—Such measures may be used in the State of Illinois, but we are not informed if that be a fact. The statutes only refer to and prescribe the bushel by weight, and the law reads as follows: Whenever any of the following articles shall be contracted for, or sold or delivered, and no special contract or agreement shall be made to the contrary, the weight per bushel shall be as follows, to wit:

Article.	Pounds.	Article.	Pounds.
Stone coal.....	80	Buckwheat.....	52
Unslacked lime.....	80	Coarse salt.....	50
Corn in the ear.....	70	Barley.....	48
Wheat.....	60	Corn meal.....	48
Irish potatoes.....	60	Castor beans.....	46
White beans.....	60	Timothy seed.....	45
Clover seed.....	60	Hemp seed.....	44
Onions.....	57	Malt.....	38
Shelled corn.....	56	Dried peaches.....	33
Rye.....	56	Oats.....	32
Flax seed.....	56	Dried apples.....	24
Sweet potatoes.....	55	Bran.....	20
Turnips.....	55	Bluegrass seed.....	14
Fine salt.....	55	Hair (plastering).....	8

LONGEVITY.

FORT BLACKMORE, Scott Co., Va.

Why did people live longer in ancient times than modern times?

DOUGLAS A. RAMEY.

Answer.—The ages of the patriarchs before the flood have often been the subject of dispute, and are no nearer settlement as to the causes of their length than they were centuries ago. With the exception of Enoch, whom "God took," nearly or all of them are represented in the Bible as having lived six, seven, and eight centuries. Some writers suppose that the name of each patriarch denotes a tribe or family instead of an individual; or, on the other hand, that the sacred biographies are allegorical. The Bible itself sheds no additional light on the subject, and we stop where it does.

THE BOSTON JUBILEE.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.

Please state when the first jubilee was held in Boston, and who was its conductor; and when was the second one held?

BANDMAN.

Answer.—The first peace jubilee was held at Boston, and continued from June 15 to June 20, inclusive, 1869. P. S. Gilmore was the leader.

A vast coliseum was built for the purpose, and when erected, it covered nearly four acres. A chorus of 10,000 singers and an orchestra of 1,000 pieces were organized, and among the novelties was the "Anvil Chorus." The world's peace jubilee was opened at the Boston Coliseum, June 17, 1872. The chorus and orchestra were just double the size of those of the jubilee of 1869. Gilmore also conducted this musical festival. There were some 200 distinguished vocalists and composers present from different countries, and the chief military bands of England, France, and Germany were also in attendance.

THE WORD "HEAVEN."

MORRISON, III.
Please to state how many times the word "Heaven" occurs in the New Testament. Mrs. C. B. JACKSON.

Answer.—A Biblical student who has given the subject attention was handed the above question and reports as follows: The word, as given, occurs the following number of times in each of the books of the New Testament

Book.	Times.	Book.	Times.
Matthew.....	70	Philippians.....	2
Mark.....	17	Colossians.....	5
Luke.....	30	I Thessalonians.....	2
John.....	18	II Thessalonians.....	1
Acts.....	24	Hebrews.....	5
Romans.....	2	James.....	2
I Corinthians.....	2	II Peter.....	3
II Corinthians.....	2	II Peter.....	1
Galatians.....	1	I John.....	1
Ephesians.....	3	Revelations.....	56

The word "heaven" occurs several times with the meaning of sky, and in a similar sense, but the above list gives the number of times "heaven" is used as meaning the abode of the blest or the immediate presence of the Lord.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME AT WASHINGTON.

COLNETTS, Wis.
When was the Soldiers' Home at Washington built; where located; how far from the White House; and did General Jackson make it an occasional summer resort when President? H. LOOMIS.

Answer.—The Soldiers' Home, a national institution for the invalid soldiers of the regular army, was established in the year 1851. A tract of land, 200 acres in extent, was purchased with a sum of money levied by General Scott on the City of Mexico. General Scott selected the site. It occupies a high plateau three miles north of the Capitol, and the drive to it is among the most pleasant which the District affords. The grounds have been increased since the first purchase. The buildings are handsome and costly, and the grounds are laid out in meadows, groves, and lakes. It has been the custom of the Presidents, since the administration of Mr. Pierce, to occupy one of the smaller buildings of the Home as a summer resort. It was a favorite retreat of President Lincoln.

PRIVATE DALZELL—BOSTON CORBETT.

IOWA FALLS, Iowa.
1. Who is Private Dalzell? 2. Was Sergeant Boston Corbett punished for shooting J. Wilkes Booth without orders? 3. Are there still making efforts to find the remains of A. T. Stewart? W. H. OVERACKER.

Answer.—1. Private Dalzell is an Ohio politician, well known throughout the Union. When

soldiers came home at the close of the war, and were known as General, Colonel, Major, Captain, etc., Dalzell made a point in calling himself a plain private, one who had shouldered a musket all through the slavery war, and the people rather enjoyed it. This title is now thoroughly identified with him, and as Private Dalzell he will always be known. He has been quite an interesting figure in Ohio politics, and has been elected by his fellow citizens to a seat in the State Legislature. 2. It may be well to indicate exactly what "orders" Corbett acted "contrary to" when he shot the assassin of President Lincoln. 3. We believe they are.

VENEZUELA'S CLIMATE.

ATLANTIC, Cass County, Iowa.
What time of the year is there rain in Venezuela, and what time have they no rain? and give reason for each. M. A. BELL.

Answer.—In Venezuela, as elsewhere in tropical America, there are two seasons, the dry and the rainy. The dry season, called summer, usually lasts from November to April; and the rainy season extends over the remaining months, except in the State of Guayana, where, owing to the dense forests, the rains are more persistent than in the other States. The reason is simply that there, as elsewhere, the seasons come and go, the rainy season taking the place of our winter.

RESPIRATION AND TEMPERATURE.

CHICAGO, WEST SIDE.
Please tell us what is normal respiration and what is normal temperature?

Answer.—The movements of respiration follow each other usually at the rate of eighteen or twenty a minute, and are accelerated by any active muscular exertion. The temperature of the human adult in a state of health averages from 98.4 degrees to 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

GEORGE SELWYN.

LAUREL HILL, Tenn.
Please give me a short biography of George Selwyn. V. N. SMITH.

Answer.—George Selwyn was an English gentleman who was born in the year 1719. He was distinguished for his wit, and his life and times have been treated of in a work by John Henneage Jesse, consisting of four volumes, published in 1843. Selwyn became a member of Parliament, and died in 1791.

"THE SCENT OF THE ROSES."

COVINGTON, Ind.
Who is the author of the line "You may break, you may shatter the vase if you will," etc., and where is it to be found? FLORA BOPINK.

Answer.—The words are to be found in Moore's "Farewell." The lines are as follows:

"You may break, you may shatter the vase, if you will,
But the scent of the roses will hang round it still!"

SENATOR CONKLING'S SPEECHES.

CAMP POINT, Ill.
A few weeks ago a question was asked and answered as to the services rendered by Mr. Conkling during the recent Presidential campaign. Will you favor your readers with a statement of the amount, if any, received by him for such services? JOHN A. HOKK.

Answer.—Senator Conkling never accepted any money as payment for the great speeches he

made during the Presidential campaign of 1880.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CHICAGO.
M. C.

What is the difference between the Edison and the Sawyer-Man lights?

Answer.—We are indebted to Mr. E. R. Knowles for the following, which is in reply to the above inquiry: In one sense there is no difference, in that they are both lamps which give light by incandescence, or the heating of a body to the point where it becomes luminous. In another sense, that of the way by which the lamp becomes incandescent and the mechanism of the lamp, there is a great difference. A short description of the lamps will be all we can say about them, as they are difficult to explain without the aid of diagrams. In the Edison lamp, a glass bulb, of the size desired for the enclosing globe of the lamp, is formed, with a supporting neck, extending in one direction, of a diameter sufficient to permit the passage of the illuminating conductor through it. Preferably a piece of tubing, of the size of the neck, has a bulb blown in it. Upon a point on the bulb opposite the center of the neck is forced a long tube for attachment of the bulb to the air-exhausting apparatus. Upon the end of the smaller piece of tubing a small bulb is formed, and the body of the tube, a little below the bulb, is enlarged for a small space to about the size of the supporting neck of the first bulb. This portion constitutes the loop supporting part, platinum wires, terminating in clamps for holding the loop, being passed through it and hermetically sealed therein. After the filament is in place, the small tube is passed up into the bulb of the large tube until its farther passage is stopped by the neck of the latter, when the two are sealed together by fusion. The lamp is now attached to a vacuum pump by the little tube at the top, and when a proper degree of exhaustion has been obtained the little tube is softened and sealed at a point near the globe, and the portion of tube above the point sealed is removed. In this way a bulb of glass, containing a fine loop of carbon, hermetically sealed therein and exhausted to a high vacuum, is obtained. Mr. Edison's carbon loops are made of paper fibre and various substances, but preferably of carbonized bamboo wood, which is worked down by successive cutting and scraping until the entire length of the loop between its enlarged ends, which varies from five to seven inches, is reduced to a uniform cross section of from one-sixty-fourth to one-thirty-second of an inch. The delicacy of manipulation of the wood, in order to make the filament uniform in size throughout, renders its cost excessive. The parts of a Sawyer-Man lamp are somewhat more complicated and more difficult to describe. Upon a thin metallic base is fixed one of the upright metallic conductors leading to the top of the lamp. The other conductor is fixed to an insulated bolt passing through the center of the base. These conductors are of steel, giving great rigidity of sup-

port to the works of the lamp. By means of a copper plunger attached to a wire running over a winding drum at the base of the lamp, in which drum an ordinary watch-spring, furnishing the motive power, is coiled, a long pencil of carbon is automatically fed upward through the lower elastic carbon contacts to a connection with the upper carbon wheel contact. Thus the pencil is constantly forced to a bearing against the upper contact until entirely disintegrated; and when entire disintegration has occurred the plunger closes the circuit of the lamp. The point at which disintegration mainly takes place is at the upper point of contact, and as, when the pencil is protected from combining matter, this disintegration amounts to the one-fiftieth of an inch for each hour's run, and as the pencil is eight inches long, the useful life of the lamp is about 400 hours. In this calculation it is assumed that the intensity of the light shall not exceed two good gas-burners, or at most, thirty-candle power. The glass globe of the lamp has no direct connection with the base supporting the lamp mechanism. In a thin, spun metal, open cup, amounting practically to a short tube, the globe is sealed by pouring into the annular space between the glass and the cup a sealing compound which is elastic at all ordinary temperatures, adheres both to the glass and the metal, and does not soften at temperatures attained in the lamp. The glass globe sealed in its cup is passed over the works and soldered to the base of its junction with it thus hermetically sealing the works inside the globe. The lamp is exhausted of its air and filled with pure nitrogen gas through a small opening in the base, which is plugged up with a pin and soldered, thus rendering the lamp air tight. To renew the pencil of carbon in the lamp, when it is used up by disintegration, the lamp is unsoldered at the base, when the globe can be lifted off and a new carbon inserted. It is then resoldered and recharged, and is ready for another 400 hours' use. This cannot be done with the Edison lamp. When once its carbon is broken the lamp is useless, being all of glass, fused together, which has to be broken to get at the interior. The Sawyer-Man lamp is made to give a luminous intensity of from 16 to 500 candle-power. The carbons used in the Sawyer-Man lamp are made by immersing a fine filament of carbon in any hydro-carbon, preferably sperm oil, and then by means of electricity depositing the carbon from the oil or other hydro-carbon upon the before-mentioned filament. By this process a carbon can be obtained up to one-eighth of an inch in diameter, and of a density and homogeneity unattainable in any other way.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

CHICAGO.

How is the Bank of England connected with the government?

H. J.

Answer.—The Bank of England is governed by a Board of Directors, a Governor and a Deputy Governor. The Board of Directors is in fact self-electing. The offices of Governor and Deputy Governor are given in rotation; the Deputy Gov-

ernor always succeeds the Governor, and usually the oldest director who has not been in office becomes Deputy Governor. It is usually about twenty years from the time of a man's first election that he arrives, as it is called, at the chair; accordingly bank directors, when first chosen by the board, are always young men. Some of the directors retire annually, but by courtesy it is always the young ones; those who have passed the chair, that is, who have served the office of Governor, always remain; the young part of the board is the fluctuating part, and the old part is the permanent part. The elder members of the board, that is those who have passed the chair, form a standing committee of indefinite powers—no precise description has ever been given of them; and this committee are called the Committee of Treasury. In the English sense, no "banker" has a chance of being a Bank Director. The mass of the Bank Directors are merchants of experience, employing a considerable capital in trades in which they have been brought up, and with which they are well acquainted. Many of them have information as to the present course of trade, and as to the character and wealth of merchants, which is most valuable, or rather is all but invaluable to the bank. The Governor and Deputy Governor, who form the executive, change every two years. There are twenty-four Directors, a Governor, and a Deputy Governor, making a court of twenty-six persons, and the court meet only once a week, and then but for a short time. The management of the entire public debt of Great Britain is in the hands of the bank, for which service it receives a compensation, which has from time to time varied in amount, according to circumstances. Says Adam Smith: "She (the bank) acts not only as an ordinary bank, but as a great engine of state. She receives and pays the greater part of the annuities which are due to the creditors of the public; she circulates exchequer bills; she advances to the government the annual amount of the land and malt taxes, which are frequently not paid till some years thereafter."

MRS. MYRA BRADWELL.

NEW BOSTON, Mercer Co., Ill.

A sketch is desired of Mrs. Myra Bradwell, the editor of the *Chicago Legal News*. A READER.

Answer.—Mrs. Myra Bradwell, who has earned a national name for her able, well-directed, and successful efforts in the direction of much-needed legislation in regard to women, was born Feb. 12, 1831, at Manchester, Vt. In infancy she removed to Portage, N. Y., and in 1843 came to Cook County, Illinois. When only 16 years of age she commenced teaching in a district school, and subsequently her attainments were such that her services were secured by the directory of the Elgin Seminary; and later her field of labor was changed to Memphis, Tenn., where at one time she had the largest private school in that city, which she retired from when the Board of Education, on account of her superior qualifications as a

teacher, offered her the choice of positions in the public schools of Memphis. During the war Mrs. Bradwell took an active part in organizing the women of Chicago to aid the sick and wounded soldiers. The Soldiers' Home counts her among its charter members, and she acted for a number of years as its Treasurer. Mrs. Bradwell was appointed a special committee to go to Springfield, Ill., and procure a charter for that institution, and an appropriation; and it was mainly due to her efforts that the State appropriated \$24,000 to the home. Among the other enterprises with which Mrs. Bradwell has been prominently identified should be mentioned the great Northwestern Sanitary Fair, held at Chicago in 1865. Judge James B. Bradwell, her husband, also devoted his time and attention to that gigantic undertaking. The beauty, attractiveness, and success of the "Arms and Trophy Department," which occupied old Bryan Hall (the site of which is now occupied by the Grand Opera House), were the results of Mrs. Bradwell's efforts, and to her taste, ability, and energy in its preparation and management. Mrs. Bradwell was the first woman ever elected an honorary member of the Illinois Bar Association; the first woman member of the Illinois Press Association, and the only woman that was given her own earnings by special act of the Legislature. In 1868 Mrs. Bradwell planned and began the publication of the *Legal News*, which has grown beyond the city and State, and even the Nation, and which has elicited the highest praise from distinguished members of the American bar and eminent legal minds of Great Britain. The success of her efforts in these lines is but a suggestion of Mrs. Bradwell's work elsewhere, and her name is prominently identified with the Illinois Social Science Association, the Illinois Industrial School for Girls, etc. "Mrs. Bradwell is a modest lady of simple habits and an unassuming, quiet, refined manner, and of prepossessing address. Truly feminine in character and religious in spirit, she wins the respect and inspires the confidence of whomever she meets, and, in her quiet way, perhaps is doing quite as much for the emancipation of her sex as any of its more conspicuous and demonstrative advocates"—a statement made years ago, and one which all who know her will recognize.

CHARLIE ROSS.

CHAMBERLAIN, D. T.

A brief statement as regards the abduction of Charlie Ross, of Philadelphia; year, age, etc. C. C. MORROW.

Answer.—Charlie Ross was the son of Christian K. Ross, of Germantown, Pa., and at the time of his disappearance was a little over 4 years of age. The child and a brother 6 years old were, playing July 1, 1874, in the streets of Germantown, when a couple of men drove up in a buggy and persuaded the children, with promises of toys and candies, to get in and ride with them in the vehicle. After driving around the place for a little time the older brother, Walter

Ross, was put out of the conveyance, and the strangers gave him 25 cents, telling him to go to a store near at hand and buy some candy and torpedoes for himself and Charlie. Walter did as he was told, but when he came out of the store the men with Charlie and the vehicle had disappeared. It was believed at first by the relatives and friends of the missing boy that he would be returned in a short time, as they supposed he might have been taken by some drunken men. Time passed, however, but no trace of the child had been discovered. In a few weeks a letter was received by Mr. Ross to the effect that if he would pay \$20,000 his son would be returned, but that the parent need not search for Charlie, as all efforts to find the abducted boy or his captors would only be attended with failure; and it was stated that if this amount was not paid, Charlie would be killed. The father answered this, and a long correspondence ensued, while the search was prosecuted in all directions. Mr. Ross wanted the child delivered at the time the money was paid, but to this the abductors refused to agree. It is stated that more than \$50,000 were expended to recover the child. At one time two gentlemen were two days in Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, with the \$20,000 ransom money to be given to the child-thieves, but they did not appear. The search was continued, and the officers of the law were looking up any and all evidence, until they had located the two men. These were found Dec. 4, 1874, committing a burglary in the house of Judge Van Brunt, Bay Ridge, L. I.; the burglary was discovered, the burglars seen and shot by persons residing in an adjoining residence. One of the men was killed instantly; the other lived several hours, and confessed that he and his companion had abducted Charlie Ross, but that the dead thief, Mosher by name, was the one who knew where the boy was secreted. Walter Ross identified the burglars as the men who had enticed him and Charlie into the buggy. There the case rested. No new fact has been developed. The missing child has never been found. Many times have children been reported who resembled Charlie, and Mr. Ross has traveled far and near in his endless search, only to return sadly and report that his boy was still missing. No case in recent years has excited such universal sympathy as that of Charlie Ross.

RED SNOW IN COLORADO.

DANVILLE, Ill.

Some time since I read a story in regard to the discovery of a peculiar red snow which has been found in Colorado. Can the "Curiosity Shop" give its readers some information?

QUILL.

Answer.—We have reports from Colorado in regard to the red snow of the Centennial State, one of which is taken from the Leadville *Chronicle*. The statement made by the journal named is as follows: "Prospectors returning from the Holy Cross country, and especially from the head of Cross Creek, report that the

ground is covered with red snow. In the almost inaccessible defiles of Mount Shasta, in California, is the only other known place in the United States where this is seen. In polar regions it is a familiar sight, and no extensive traveler there returns without a description of it. The broad fields of everlasting snow that flank the northern coast of Greenland are flaked with the strange blood red, and further toward the poles miles of it stretch as far as the naked eye can reach. The phenomenon is due to the presence of a minute red animalculæ in the snow. A microscope detects their presence, but how they got there is a difficult question and one that has never been quite satisfactorily answered. The red snow in this region is first seen at the head of Cross Creek, where it may be observed in patches of intense carmine, varying in area from as large as a man's hat to twenty feet in diameter. Taken in the hand and closely examined, nothing can be detected that gives it color, and it melts into clear red water, leaving no stain. Further on, in some of the steep gulches with which the country abounds, the bottoms are entirely covered with the strange substance. In some places the color is vivid in the extreme, while in others it fades to a faint pink, producing an effect not readily described in words. Old prospectors, who penetrated the region two years ago, say that there was no snow of this description there, and its fall can scarcely have antedated this year. Still higher, and at the very foot of the mountain, the red snow disappears, and nothing save the pure white coverlet greets the eye. How the same tiny insects that sent the boreal can find their way to the inaccessible Holy Cross is a thing beyond human ken, and will be a problem for the scientists of the future to ponder over." It may be added that snow is occasionally tinged black, yellow, red, or green, as known to Pliny, and as has been minutely described by various scientists for some time.

GENERAL A. J. SMITH.

CORRECTIONVILLE, Iowa.

I would like a short sketch of Major General A. J. Smith.

J. MILLER.

Answer.—Brevet Major General Andrew Jackson Smith was born in Bucks County, Pa., about the year 1814, and graduated at West Point in 1838. He entered the First Dragoons, and became First Lieutenant March 4, 1845, and Captain Feb. 16, 1847. In May, 1861, he became Major, and May, 1864, Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth Cavalry, and Colonel of the famous Seventh Cavalry in July, 1866. In 1862 he was Brigadier General of volunteers, and in 1864 Major General of volunteers. He served in the Mexican war in 1847-8; was actively engaged in the Oregon hostilities in 1855 and 1860; was engaged in the siege of Corinth; commanded a division in the assault of Chickasaw Bluffs, Dec. 27 and 29, 1862, and at Arkansas Post, June 11, 1863; in the Vicksburg campaign in 1863 he commanded a division of the Thirteenth Corps; from August, 1863, to

January, 1864, he commanded the sixth Division of the Sixteenth Corps, and from January to March, 1864, commanded the Third Division of the same corps. He also took part in the Red River campaign, and was engaged at Fort De Runsey, Pleasant River, and Cane River. From June to September, 1864, he commanded the right wing of the Sixteenth Corps in Mississippi and Tennessee, and participated in the operations in Missouri during Price's raid from September to November. During December, 1864, and January, 1865, he commanded a detachment of General Thomas' army against the rebel Hood, and again commanded the Sixteenth Corps from February to July, 1865, in the Mobile campaign, and was at the siege of Spanish Fort and the occupation of Montgomery. He resigned May 6, 1869.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

OTTUMWA, IOWA.

Since the discussion in regard to the Panama Canal has come up, we have heard many references to the "Monroe doctrine." Tell us, briefly, what it is.

AMERICAN.

Answer.—The United States had recognized the independence of South American States, and desired to foster republican governments in the western hemisphere. It was the conviction that the less the European powers had to do in the control of the governments of America the safer would be republican institutions. In the year 1823 President Monroe enunciated the doctrine which came afterward to be known by his name. The doctrine was as follows: That we consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety; that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States. This doctrine had an important effect upon the course of foreign powers, and since its enunciation has been generally accepted by the leading statesmen of this country.

BALLOON ASCENSIONS.

MADISON, Wis.

The recent ascension of the Minneapolis balloon reminds us of the catastrophe at Chicago some years since. What were the particulars in regard to Donaldson's balloon voyage?

S. R.

Answer.—Donaldson's balloon ascension took place July 15, 1875, at Chicago. The aeronaut was Professor Donaldson, a daring man, who had made a number of air voyages at St. Louis and elsewhere, and again started at Chicago at the time above mentioned, having on his last and fatal trip but one companion—Mr. Newton S. Grimwood, a reporter of the *Chicago Evening Journal*. A large crowd of people witnessed the ascension. The balloon floated out over the lake. The air-voyagers were seen about a dozen miles out in the lake, and then they were lost to view. A wind-storm came on, and it is supposed the two men were wrecked with their frail craft. A body was found subsequently on the east shore of Lake Michigan, between Montague

and Stony Creek, which was believed to be that of young Grimwood. No trace was ever discovered of Donaldson. The catastrophe excited wide interest at the time.

CHARLOTTE BRONTE.

BURNETT, Wis.

How is the name Bronte pronounced? What was, or rather is, the opinions of the critics of her (generally considered) greatest work, "Jane Eyre?"

MRS. A. G. E.

Answer.—The name Bronte is pronounced Bron-te, with the short sound of "o" and the accent on the first syllable. In regard to the critics' opinion of "Jane Eyre," E. P. Whipple wrote: "The popularity of 'Jane Eyre' was doubtless due in part to the freshness, raciness, and vigor of mind it evinced; but it was obtained not so much by these qualities as by frequent dealings in moral paradox, and by the hardihood of its assaults upon the prejudices of proper people." "Fraser's Magazine" spoke in these words of the work: "Almost all that we require in a novelist the writer has—perception of character and knowledge of delineating it, picturesqueness, passion, and knowledge of life. Really—deep, significant really—is the characteristic of this book."

TEACHERS AND THEIR SALARIES.

JANESVILLE, Wis.

In what State or Territory are there the most teachers employed; in what the most females, and in what are the teachers, male and female, paid the highest average salary?

WANT TO KNOW.

Answer.—The following facts are taken from the last report of the United States Commissioner of Education, General John Eaton, which has just been issued: New York has 8,164 male and 22,505 female teachers. Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Illinois have more male teachers than New York, the number in those States being, respectively, 11,456, 9,607, and 8,973. New York, as intimated, stands at the head of the list of female teachers, the other States nearest her being Iowa, 13,579; Illinois, 12,757; Ohio, 12,031; Pennsylvania, 11,603. The largest average monthly salary to males is paid by the District of Columbia, \$89.47; Nevada next, \$84.46; and Arizona, \$84; Nevada pays an average monthly salary of \$83.09 to her female teachers, and Arizona \$68. The others are below that sum down to \$22.83, paid in New Hampshire.

"BOSS TWEED."

DUBUQUE, IOWA.

When and where did "Boss" Tweed die? Did he not once escape from jail?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—William M. Tweed, the New York political "Boss," was the defendant in a suit brought against him in behalf of the people by Charles O'Connor. That was in October, 1871. The "Boss" gave bail to the amount of \$1,000,000. In the month of November he was re-elected to the State Senate, but did not take his seat, and in December he was arrested on a criminal charge of fraud, and gave bail in the sum of \$5,000. The result of the first suit in 1873 was a disagreement on the part of the jury, but in the month of November he was sentenced to twelve years imprisonment for fraud, and he was fined \$12,550. In April, 1875, the greatest suit was

brought against him to recover \$6,000,000 of public funds, which he and his associate thieves had stolen. He was confined in Ludlow Street Jail, and escaped in the month of December, 1875, but was captured in Spain and brought to this country. He died in jail April 12, 1878.

SEVERAL QUOTATIONS.

Where do these expressions come from: "Care killed the cat;" "Counting your chickens before they're hatched?" ROCKFORD, ILL.
QUERIST.

Answer.—In Butler's "Hudibras" occurs the line, "And count their chickens ere they're hatched." Several authors use the other phrase. Shakespeare, in "Much Ado About Nothing," act V., scene I., says: "What though care killed a cat, thou hast mettle enough in thee to kill care;" and G. Wither, in a poem on Christmas, has it as follows:

"Care will kill a cat,
And therefore let's be merry."

THE BLACK HILLS.

What is the name and what the height of the highest peak in the Black Hills? SIOUX CITY, IOWA.
INQUIRER.

Answer.—The peak known as Crook's Monument, named after General Crook, is 7,600 feet above sea level; Harney's Peak is 7,440 feet; Dodge's Peak, 7,300; Terry's Peak, 7,200; and Warren's Peak, 6,900. Two of the most imposing peaks are the Devil's Tower and Inyan Kara, in the northwestern part of the Black Hills country.

"COMPARISONS ARE ODISIOUS."

I find in my edition of Shakespeare that the well-known quotation "Comparisons are odious" (in "Much Ado About Nothing") is given "Comparisons are odorous." Is this a misprint, or is it the correct rendering of the phrase? BURNETT, WIS.
MRS. A. G. E.

Answer.—The phrase "Comparisons are odorous" occurs in act 3, scene 5, of "Much Ado About Nothing." Putnam's "Handy Book of Quotations" gives the words "Comparisons are odious," and attributes them to Herbert's "Jacula Prudentum."

THE BLACK PRINCE.

What is meant by the title of "The Black Prince," the son of Edward III., of England, and why was he so called? PATTERNSVILLE.
W. POSEY.

Answer.—Edward, Prince of Wales, was called "The Black Prince" because of the color of his armor.

SECRETARY SEWARD.

A brief sketch of the life of Wm. H. Seward would be of interest. MORGANVILLE, Clay County, Kan.
H. S. JELUM.

Answer.—The great Senator and Secretary was a native of New York State, having been born at Florida, Orange County, May 16, 1801. He came from Welsh and Irish families, and combined the strong qualities of both races. His father was a physician and merchant, and accumulated a moderate fortune, and was a prominent person in the community in which he resided. Seward was educated at Union College, and, in 1819, visited the South and taught school in Georgia for about six months. He was admitted to the bar in 1822, and settled at Auburn, in the western part of his native

State, becoming the partner and son-in-law of Judge Miller. At the age of 27 he was chosen chairman of a State convention. He was flung into public life at a time when there was widespread public excitement in regard to Freemasonry, and, as an anti-Mason, Seward was chosen to the State Senate. In 1833 he visited Europe, and in 1834 was a candidate for Governor of New York, but was defeated by the Democratic nominee. He was about the same time made agent of a land company, and thereby gained wealth and increased influence. In 1838 he was elected Governor of New York, and was pronounced in his views for abolition and in favor of a liberal policy toward foreign immigration. In 1849 he was chosen to the United States Senate, where he was soon recognized as a leader. He was the author of the famous phrase, "the irrepressible conflict," used in a speech at Rochester, N. Y., in 1853, and afterward as familiar as some of General Grant's noted phrases, or General Dix's order: "If any man attempts to haul down the American flag shoot him on the spot." Senator Seward revisited Europe in 1859, and extended his tour to the Holy Land and Egypt. He was a prominent candidate before the Republican convention of 1860, when President Lincoln was first nominated. Senator Seward became President Lincoln's Secretary of State, which office he held during a period of unexampled difficulty. The plot which resulted in the death of President Lincoln embraced Secretary Seward, and he was dangerously wounded by one of the assassins of the Booth crew. In 1871 he made his third and last foreign tour, visiting Southern Europe, Turkey, Palestine, Egypt, India, China, and Japan, and was everywhere received with the highest honors. He died at Auburn, N. Y., Oct. 10, 1872.

THE SUN'S HEAT.

When we build a fire to warm ourselves or for any other purpose, as soon as the fuel burns up that is the end of such fire unless replenished by more fuel. Now the sun has warmed and given us light for several thousand years and yet its dazzling brightness and great heat continue the same as ever. Now, what is the general opinion of astronomers and other learned people regarding the materials of which the sun is composed? SOUTH RILEY, ILL.
C. GOODSIL.

Answer.—A few general facts about the sun may not be uninteresting. Its diameter is 850,000 miles, or more than 107 times the mean diameter of the earth. The volume or bulk of the sun exceeds that of the earth 1,405,000 times. The mass of the sun, or the quantity of matter it contains as measured by weight, exceeds that of the earth 356,000 times. The following facts relative to the chemical constitution of the sun will answer the inquiry made: The solar atmosphere comprises, in the state of vapor, a great number of substances which compose our planet. Of the metals which enter into the composition of our alkalies and earths, it has sodium, magnesium, calcium, barium; it also contains iron, zinc, copper, nickel, and chromium; it also has, probably, gold, cobalt, strontium, and cadmium. It has,

however, neither silver, mercury, tin, aluminium, lead, antimony, arsenic, nor silicium, at least no considerable quantities have yet been found. We quote an authority in regard to the question of heat: "Until very lately, when the theory of the conservation of energy became understood, the vaguest ideas on the probable origin of the sun's light and heat had been sustained. Professor Sir W. Thomson has thrown much light on the subject, and we are now led to think, that as the particles which formed the sun have gradually come together under the influence of gravitation, the result has been the conversion of potential energy into motion, or kinetic energy, and of the latter into heat. This idea is, we believe, also entertained by Professors Helmholtz, Rankine, Tait, and generally by those who have studied the subject, and are at the same time acquainted with the theory of the conservation of energy."

GENERAL GARFIELD ON THE TARIFF.

I would like to know what General Garfield said in his letter of acceptance last summer on the tariff.

X.

Answer.—After announcing his acceptance and briefly discussing popular education and the national finances, General Garfield said: "In reference to our custom laws, a policy should be pursued which will bring revenue to the Treasury, and will enable the labor and capital employed in our great industries to compete fairly in our own markets with the labor and capital of foreign producers. We legislate for the people of the United States, and not for the whole world; and it is our glory that the American laborer is more intelligent and better paid than his foreign competitor. Our country cannot be independent unless its people, with their abundant natural resources, possess the requisite skill at any time to clothe, arm, and equip themselves for war, and in time of peace to produce all the necessary implements of labor. It was the manifest intention of the founders of the government to provide for the common defense, not by standing armies alone, but by raising among the people a greater army of artisans, whose intelligence and skill should powerfully contribute to the safety and glory of the Nation."

THE ISLAND CITY.

Tell me something about Venice. Why has the city canals instead of streets? also any interesting information about the city.

KESWICK, IOWA.

Mr A. H. O. L.

Answer.—Venice is one of the most famous and singular cities in Europe, and is built upon a cluster of islets in the lagoon bearing the name of the city. The lagoon is banked off from the Adriatic by a long, narrow sandbank extending southwest from the mouth of the Piave to that of the Adige, and divided into a number of islands by narrow sea-passages, six in number. The Porto di Malamocco, between the island of the same name on the south and that of Lido on the north, is now the deepest channel into the lagoon. Inside of this sandbank, and between it and the mainland,

which is from three to five miles distant, is the lagoon, a sheet of shallow water. In some parts of this marshy, sea-covered plain islets have become consolidated into ground firm enough to be cultivated; and in the midst of a crowded cluster of such islets, amounting to between seventy and eighty in number, the city of Venice is built. The chief of these islands is called Isola de Rialto, or Island of the Deep Stream. The islands, in many places mere shoals, afford no adequate foundation for buildings. and the city for the most part is built upon artificial foundations of piles or stone. The Canalazzo, or Grand Canal, divides Venice into two unequal parts, and is the main thoroughfare for traffic or pleasure. The city is subdivided by some 146 smaller canals, and there are the water streets, by means of which passengers can be conveyed to any quarter, for these the canal is the street and the gondola is the carriage. Access can also be had to various parts of the city by land, there being over 300 public bridges across the canals; and among the houses by narrow lanes; the Rialto, the most famous bridge, spans the Grand Canal. The city has many places of interest to the traveler, the tourist, the student, and no brief description could do anything like justice even to a very few of them.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

DECATUR, Ill.

Who were the prominent candidates named in the Democratic National Convention at Cincinnati, in 1850, beside General Hancock, and what vote did each receive?

PRESIDENT.

Answer.—Judge Stephen J. Field, of California; Senator Thomas F. Bayard, Wm. R. Morrison, of Illinois; Senator Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio, and General W. S. Hancock, of Pennsylvania, were named. The ballots resulted as follows:

	First.	Second.
Winfield S. Hancock	171	320
Samuel J. Randall .....	.....	128½
Thomas F. Bayard	153½	113
Henry B. Payne	81	...
Allen G. Thurman	68½	50
Stephen J. Field	65	65½
Wm. R. Morrison	62	...
Thomas A. Hendricks	50½	31
Samuel J. Tilden	38	6
Horatio Seymour	8	...
Scattering	31	22
Total	728½	736
Necessary to a choice	365	369

When the second ballot was corrected, the vote stood as follows:

Hancock	705
Bayard	2
Hendricks	30
Tilden	1
Total	738
Necessary to a choice	370

READING THE BAROMETER.

GOSHEN, Mo.

Which indicates foul weather, the rising or falling of the barometer, and why?

O. M. BARNES.

Answer.—Generally speaking, a falling barometer indicates rain, and a rising barometer fair weather; a steady barometer foretells a con-

tinuance of the weather at the time; when low, this is usually broken or bad, and when high it indicates fair. A sudden fall generally precedes a storm, the violence of which is in proportion to the barometric gradient. An unsteady barometer shows an unsettled state of weather; gradual changes the approach of some permanent condition of it. The variations must also be interpreted with reference to the prevailing winds, each different wind having its own rules which must be observed. The connection between the changes of the weather and the pressure of the atmosphere is by no means clearly understood. One reason is given which may account to some extent for the barometer being lower in wet than in dry weather, namely: it has been shown by Dalton that moist air is lighter than dry air; wherever, therefore, a large amount of aqueous vapor has displaced a part of the dry air, the barometric column will read relatively low; hence much depends upon the nature of the winds.

AERONAUTICS.

At this time a brief account of the principal balloonists, and especially Professor Wise, would be of interest.

Answer—We have an account of the last air-voyage made by Donaldson, who was lost none know where. Professor Wise was known as a balloon expert for over twenty years. In the year 1859, in the month of July, Wise, with several companions, started in a balloon from St. Louis, with the intention of reaching New York. They succeeded in general in following the course mapped out for themselves until they had crossed Lake Erie, when they were caught in an adverse current of air and forced to abandon their original design. They traveled a distance of about 1,150 miles in less than twenty hours. There have been numerous other air journeys in America, which are more or less familiar to the public. In the month of October, 1879, Professor Wise made his last trip. He ascended in an imperfect balloon, and it was supposed he was lost in Lake Michigan. The remains of one of his companions were afterward found. The circumstances attending this disaster were similar in some respects to those which terminated in the loss of Donaldson and young Grimwood.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

CHICAGO.

When, that is, in what year, was the Prince of Wales in America?

S. R.

Answer—The Prince of Wales landed at St. Johns, July 24, 1860, for his American tour. He remained in the Queen's dominions for several weeks, and was received with enthusiasm wherever he went. While in the United States he visited Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston, and other leading cities, and vast crowds of people turned out to see him in these several metropolitan centers. The Prince was met by President Buchanan at Washington, and visited the various departments of the government. He

also visited Mount Vernon, where is the tomb of Washington. While in Chicago he was a guest at the old Richmond House, which will be remembered by old residents of this city.

VOTES OF ILLINOIS.

GUYTON, Ind.

What was the smallest Republican majority in the state of Illinois since the year 1860? WM. SYMPSON.

Answer—The following gives the vote for President from 1860 to 1880, inclusive. This is the best expression of the popular vote of Illinois, and as such it is herewith submitted:

1860—	
Lincoln.....	172,161
Douglas.....	160,215
Breckinridge.....	2,404
Bell.....	3,913

Total vote.....	338,693
Lincoln's majority.....	5,923

1864—	
Lincoln.....	189,496
McClellan.....	158,730

Total.....	348,226
Lincoln's majority.....	30,766

1868—	
Grant.....	250,303
Seymour.....	199,143

Total.....	449,446
Grant's majority.....	51,160

1872—	
Grant.....	241,944
Greeley.....	184,938
O'Connor.....	3,058

Total.....	429,940
Grant's majority.....	53,948

1876—	
Hayes.....	278,232
Tilden.....	258,601
Cooper.....	17,233
Smith (Temperance).....	141
Scattering.....	286

Total.....	554,493
Hayes' majority.....	1,971

1880—	
Garfield.....	318,037
Hancock.....	277,321
Weaver.....	26,358
Scattering.....	596

Total.....	622,312
Garfield's majority.....	13,762

JOSHUA R. GIDDINGS.

LIBERTY, Gage Co., Neb.

Under whose administration did Joshua R. Giddings resign his seat in Congress, and for what cause, and when was he returned?

O. F. STANTON.

Answer—The brig Creole, of Kicamond, with 135 slaves on board, sailed for New Orleans in the latter part of October, 1841. On the evening of Nov. 7, near the Bahama Islands, nineteen of the slaves rose and obtained possession of the brig, and directed her to be taken into Nassau, where she arrived two days afterward. In the struggle John R. Howell, a slave vender, was killed, and Captain Gifford, the first mate, and ten of the crew were wounded. "These self-emancipated freemen," says the late Vice President Wilson, "had it in their power to take the lives of one and all the white persons on board. But they rose superior to revenge and retaliation. Even the wounded captain and crew testified that 'the mutineers said that all they had done was for their own freedom.' The

nineteen of the slaves were held for the purpose of obtaining instructions from the home government, and the others were allowed to go free. The officers of the brig demanded that the mutineers should be left on board, to be taken into some port of the United States and tried for mutiny and murder; but the authorities positively refused to give them up." This case created great excitement, and especially was the South agitated. In February of the year following Calhoun introduced a resolution requesting the President, John Tyler, to communicate to the Senate any authenticated accounts he had received of murder on the Creole and the wounding of the captain and mate by slaves on board, and the occurrences which took place at Nassau after the arrival of the vessel at that port; what steps had been taken by the Executive for the punishment of the guilty, the redress of the wrong done to Southern citizens, and the insult offered to the American flag. This resolution was adopted, and the President promptly responded through Webster, then Secretary of State, showing that the facts were known to the government, and that Webster had received instructions to prepare a dispatch to Everett, Minister to Great Britain. Webster's dispatch gave great satisfaction to the slaveholders. The dispatch, in brief, declared that it was the plain and obvious duty of the authorities of Nassau to assist in restoring to the master and crew their vessel, and in enabling them to resume their voyage and to take with them the mutineers and murderers for their crimes. This was laid before the British Government, but all efforts to secure compensation for the slaves or the surrender of the men who had asserted and maintained their own liberty, were unavailing. Mr. Giddings was so impressed with the positions of the President and Senate that he deemed it to be a duty he owed his country to combat them, and he drew up and introduced a series of resolutions, March 21, in which he justified the conduct of the slaves on the ground of their abstract right to freedom, and declared that they had violated no law of the United States, and that any attempt to re-enslave them was unauthorized by the Constitution and incompatible with the national honor. At the request of Fessenden, Giddings withdrew the resolutions. He was, however, censured for introducing them, the vote on censure being 125 for and 69 against. Mr. Giddings immediately resigned, returned to Ohio, was elected by a largely increased majority, and in five weeks again took his seat in the House.

ORBIT OF THE MOON AND EARTH.

MEDINA.

What is the shape of the moon's path around the earth? What is the shape of the earth's orbit?

L. S. SMITH

Answer.—The moon revolves round the earth in an elliptic orb, with the earth in the focus; the eccentricity of the ellipse being equal to .05491 of half its major axis, or more than $3\frac{1}{4}$ times that

of the earth's orbit. The point at which the moon is nearest to the earth is called the perigee, and that at which she is farthest from it her apogee, and the line joining these two points is called the line of apsides. When the moon is at the perigee, she is within 225,000 miles, and when at the apogee more than 251,000 miles from the earth. The path of the earth is not strictly a circle, but an ellipse of small eccentricity, in one of the foci of which is the sun. It is nearest the sun, or in perihelion, at the beginning of the year, or when the northern hemisphere has winter.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

What member of Congress has been longest Speaker of the House of Representatives? Who have held that office the greatest number of terms?

Answer.—Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia, was Speaker of the Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, and Twenty-third Congresses. Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina; Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana; James G. Blaine, of Maine, and Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania, have each held the office three terms. Henry Clay was Speaker of the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Congresses. F. A. Muhlenburg, of Pennsylvania; Jonathan Dayton, of New Jersey; Joseph B. Varnum, of Massachusetts; James K. Polk, of Tennessee, and Lynn Boyd, of Kentucky, each presided over Congress for two terms.

CABINET FACTS.

CHAMPAIGN, Ill.

How many members of the Cabinet, since the time of Washington, have become President of the United States? It would be interesting to know; also, to know what Cabinet positions were occupied by the fortunate ones.

YOUNG POLITICIAN.

Answer.—The following will show what this inquirer desires: There were six Secretaries of State who afterwards became President, namely, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Van Buren, and Buchanan. Monroe was Secretary of War for a short time after he had served in the State Department, and General Grant was Secretary of War ad interim. There have been no Secretaries of the Treasury, the Navy, or the Interior, nor any Postmasters or Attorney Generals who have become President. Jeff Davis was Secretary of War under President Pierce.

WHO MAY BE PRESIDENT.

STURGEON BAY, Wis.

In case of the death of both the President and Vice President, can Congress appoint anyone to the office who has not the qualifications that are prescribed in the fifth clause of the second article? Can the Speaker become President?

D. L. DAMKOERLEZ.

Answer.—Congress has no option in the matter. The Constitution prescribes what shall be the qualifications of the President and Vice President, and Congress cannot change or ignore it. The Constitution plainly States that "no person, except a natural-born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States." And the twelfth amendment expressly provides that "no

person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States."

POPULATION OF THE TERRITORIES.

Is it a fact that Cook County has as large a population as all the Territories of the United States combined? It would be interesting to know how large a county Chicago is in.

CHICAGO.

WEST SIDE.

Answer.—The investigation of the facts asked for has led to several interesting comparisons. First, then, we have the population of Chicago, according to the return last year of the Supervisor of Census of this district, which was 503,304, and the population of Cook County, 607,468. The Territories were, at the same time, returned as follows:

Arizona.....	40,441	Utah.....	143,906
Dakota.....	135,180	Washington...	75,120
Idaho.....	32,611	Wyoming.....	20,788
Montana.....	39,157		
New Mexico.....	118,430	Total	605,633

The population of Cook County is greater than the combined population of the States of Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, and Delaware; about the same as Vermont and Rhode Island together; nearly double that of New Hampshire, and almost as great as that of either Connecticut or West Virginia. The West Division alone would settle two States like Delaware, and have enough left to start a new one, while the whole population of Nevada could be put into the Fourteenth Ward and not be more crowded than the people are there now.

TALBOT AND PHOTOGRAPHY—LORD BACON.

MORRISTOWN, ILL.

1. A sketch of the life of Talbot. 2. Why was Francis Bacon, Lord Chancellor of England, imprisoned in London Tower?

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. William Henry Fox Talbot, the chief discoverer of photography, was a grandson of the Earl of Ilchester, and maternally descended from the Earl of Shrewsbury. He was born in 1800 and educated at Harrow and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he obtained two university prizes. He represented Chippingham in the Liberal interest in the first reformed Parliament. In his "Pencil of Nature," published in 1844, he has related the steps by which he was led to the discovery of the photographic art, for which he received, in 1842, the medal of the Royal Society. Although he had patented his process, he left it open to the public. The later years of his life were devoted to the deciphering of the cuneiform inscriptions obtained from the East. He wrote a number of works, and is ranked high in several departments of scientific investigation. 2. Lord Bacon was sentenced for receiving bribes, while Lord Chancellor, to a fine of £40,000 and to imprisonment in the Tower during the King's pleasure.

KING KALAKAUA.

LE MARS, IOWA.

Give the name and a sketch of the life of the King of the Sandwich Islands.

JOHN W. SMITH.

Answer.—David Kalakaua, who is now on a visit to the United States, is the seventh King of the Hawaiian Islands. Honolulu is his native place, the King having been born there Nov. 16,

1836. He is descended on his mother's side from Keawe, an ancient King of the island of Hawaii. King Kalakaua received an English education in the royal school at Honolulu, and in 1860 visited California. In 1863 he married the Chief-tainess Kapiolani. When Lunalilo died, Feb. 3, 1874, Kalakaua and the Queen Dowager Emma, relict of Kamehameha IV., both announced themselves as candidates for the throne, and when the Legislature met in extra session to elect a king, Kalakaua had 39 votes out of the 45, Queen Emma receiving the remaining 6, and he was declared King. A mob of Queen Emma's partisans, on hearing the result of this vote, broke into the court house and attacked the Legislature still sitting there. Help was asked by the authorities from the American and British ships of war then lying in port, and the rioters were dispersed. Kalakaua was installed King the same day. Soon after he proclaimed his brother, Prince William Pitt Leleiohoka, heir apparent. Since he became King he visited the United States, and now returns for the second time to this country as king.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' HOMESTEADS.

TENNESSEE, ILL.

Is there a law giving the soldier 160 acres of land without settling upon it?

GEORGE McDANIEL.

Answer.—The first requirement is that the person has served for ninety days in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States during the rebellion, has remained loyal to the government, and has been honorably discharged. The next privilege such soldier or sailor has is, "such homestead settler shall be allowed six months after locating his homestead, and filing his declaratory statement, within which to make his entry, and commence his settlement and improvement." The time the settler has served in the army, navy, or marine corps shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title; or if discharged on account of wounds received or disability incurred in the line of duty, then the term of enlistment shall be deducted from the time heretofore required to perfect title, without reference to the length of time he may have served; "but no patent shall issue to any homestead settler who has not resided upon, improved, and cultivated his homestead for a period of at least one year after he shall have commenced his improvements." No matter what persons say who solicit the privilege of locating homesteads in the name of soldiers and sailors, at considerable expense, when there is no prospect of settling on the land selected; soldiers and sailors will observe the important requirement of *at least one year's actual bona fide residence and cultivation of the homestead.*

PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS.

UPPER SANDUSKY, OHIO.

How many full pensioners are there in the United States, and how much do they receive per month, and how are they divided according to States?

S. A. WAGNER.

Answer.—In the report of the Commissioner of Pensions for the year 1880, we find the num-

ber of pensioners on the roll to have been 250,802, against 242,755 in 1879. The list for 1880 was distributed as follows:

Army—	
Invalids,.....	133,212
Widows, etc.....	78,772
Navy—	
Invalids,.....	2,060
Widows, etc.....	1,870
War of 1812—	
Survivors.....	10,138
Widows, etc.....	24,750
Disbursements—	
For regular pensions.....	\$37,046,186
For arrears of pensions.....	19,970,171
Salaries and expense of agents....	224,183

Total disbursements.....\$57,240,540

There are sixteen pension agencies in the United States, by whose agents the above amount was paid to pensioners. The work of the Pension Office is not conducted by States, but through these agencies, and the reports of the number of pensioners were through these agencies, whose districts are by no means to be understood to be chiefly or solely State bounds.

"PLATO, THOU REASONEST WELL."

PAW PAW, ILL.

"It must be so. Cato, thou reasonest well." "It must be so. Plato, thou reasonest well." Which is correct, and from what is the extract taken?

MRS. B. J. WHEELER.

Answer.—The quotation is from Addison's tragedy, "Cato," and the lines showing the connection are as follows:

"It must be so: Plato, thou reasonest well;
Else whence this pleasing hope, this fond desire,
This longing after immortality?
Or whence this secret dread and inward horror
Of falling into nought? Why shrinks the soul
Back on itself, and startles at destruction?
'Tis the divinity that stirs within us;
'Tis heaven itself that points out a hereafter,
And intimates eternity to man."

THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

What, if any, legislation was had in the last Congress in regard to the length of a working day? Were eight hours made a legal working day?

LABORER.

Answer.—The last Congress, on June 14, 1880, adopted the following, upon motion of Mr. Wright: "That, according to the true intent and meaning of section 3,738 of the Revised Statutes, all laborers, workmen, and mechanics employed by or in behalf of the government, shall hereafter receive a full day's pay for eight hours' work; and all heads of departments, officers, and agents of the government are hereby directed to enforce said law as herein interpreted." It passed by a vote of yeas, 130; nays, 51.

RESUMPTION.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

How was it that Secretary Sherman's name was identified with the resumption act?

K. CRITZEN.

Answer.—Secretary John Sherman's name was connected with the measure when it was first brought to the notice of the country. In December, 1874, his bill for resumption was passed by Congress, and was signed by the President. The act provided for the resumption of specie payments by the United States upon June 1, 1879. Mr. Sherman was, by a strange coincidence

Secretary of the Treasury when his own measure went into effect.

LAKE CHAPALA, IN MEXICO.

World like some description of Lake Chapala and vicinity as space will admit of.

BRUCE STEWART.

Answer.—Chapala is probably the largest lake in Mexico. It contains, according to the most recent and accurate reports, in the neighborhood of 1,300 square miles. Lake Chapala is in about latitude 20 degrees and 20 minutes, and ranges in west longitude from 102 degrees to 103 degrees and 35 minutes. The lake is merely an expansion of the Rio Grande de Lerma, which enters the Pacific at San Blas. Chapala lies on the table land of Anahuac, and has many islands.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

PEORIA, ILL.

How did the internal revenue receipts of New York, Illinois, and Ohio compare for the fiscal year ending June, 1880?

STATISTICIAN.

Answer.—The total receipts of internal revenue from all sources for the fiscal year ended June, 1880, were as follows:

New York.....	\$16,249,877
Illinois.....	23,035,614
Ohio.....	18,018,999

STATISTICS OF RELIGIONS.

CLARENCE, MO.

What is the number of the Catholic and Protestant churches in the world?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—According to the estimates from "Schem's Statistics of the World" there are 201,000,000 Roman Catholics and 106,000,000 Protestants in the world. No reports are at hand which would show the number of Catholic and Protestant churches of the world.

EMILE DE GIRARDIN.

OTTAWA, ILL.

Was the late Emile De Girardin the author of any permanent works which have been published in English?

J.

Answer.—Outside of his career as a politician and journalist it cannot be said that Girardin left anything which will go to form any important part of the literature of France. The greater part of his literary work will probably remain unknown to the mass of English readers.

UNLUCKY FRIDAY.

EDGEFIELD COURT HOUSE, S. C.

Why is Friday considered an unlucky day, and how came it to be so considered?

M. A. NICHOLSON.

Answer.—Friday is held to be an unlucky day by many nations, and this is held to be so by many authorities on account of the religious associations connected with it, which, of course, commence with the Christian era.

GREENBACK CANDIDATES IN 1876.

FREEPORT, ILL.

Who was the Greenback candidate for the Vice Presidency with Peter Cooper in 1876?

REPUBLICAN.

Answer.—Samuel F. Carey, of Ohio, was nominated at the Greenback Convention held at Indianapolis, Ind., May 17, 1876.

LINCOLN IN CONGRESS.

MORGANVILLE, Clay County, Kan.

How long did President Lincoln serve in, and what year was he elected, to Congress?

H. S. J.

Answer.—President Lincoln in 1846 accepted

the nomination for Congress from the Springfield district, and was elected by a larger majority than was ever before given to any candidate. He remained but one term, and on his return devoted himself closely to his profession for a number of years.

GOVERNORS OF TERRITORIES.

Inform us what the salaries are of the several Governors of the Territories.

Answer.—All the Governors of the Territories receive the same salary, which is \$2,600 per annum.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

Did General Garfield vote for the Chinese immigration after it had been vetoed by President Hayes?

Answer.—General Garfield voted against passing the Chinese immigration bill over the veto.

VALLEY OF THE JORDAN.

By what people is the country adjacent to the river Jordan inhabited? What is their chief occupation? What kind of climate have they? How are their seasons divided? Would the country be productive if properly cultivated? What would be produced in it? When and how did Turkey acquire it? Are lands sold there as in the United States; and, if so, at what rate?

Answer.—The population of Palestine is about as easy to describe as the inhabitants of the country bordering the Jordan. The bulk of the inhabitants are a mixed race, says Dr. R. D. Hitchcock, descendants of the ancient Syrians and their Arab conquerors. The Jewish population of Palestine is not great, and they dwell chiefly in the four sacred cities of Jerusalem, Safed, Tiberias, and Hebron. To say anything intelligently of the Valley of the Jordan, we advise the knowledge-seeker to take a map of Palestine and follow it while a few points are given. Lake Huleh (called also the Waters of Merom) is the largest northern body of water which contributes to the Jordan. This lake is triangular in shape, about six miles long and three and a half wide. On the north of the lake, whence spring several affluents of the Jordan, is an impenetrable jungle, the wallowing-place of buffaloes. There is a marsh bordering the lake, which is about ten miles long, and which is covered with reeds and brushes, but on the west there is a fine fertile plain. From Lake Huleh to the Sea of Galilee (the Lake of Gennesaret) the river first passes sluggishly over its bed for a short distance, then over a rocky bed, where it deposits its mud, and then rushes on through a narrow volcanic valley, and then, thirteen miles or so below, it enters Gennesaret. This lake is surrounded by an almost continuous wall of hills, broken or receding occasionally, as at Tiberias, the plain of Gennesaret and at the Jordan. The hills are of limestone, basalt, and volcanic rocks; hot springs abound, and earthquakes are frequent. This lake is pear-shaped; some sixteen miles long and four to seven miles wide. The river issues from the southern extremity of this lake, and enters a broad valley, or depressed plain or tract between

the mountains. During the spring floods this "lower plain" is inundated; then it plunges over some twenty-seven formidable rapids, and then on to the Dead Sea. The whole distance from the sources of the river to its mouth is not more than 136 miles in a straight line, and its whole descent is about 3,000 to the Dead Sea. The cities which in Bible times stood on the lakes and in the valley of the Jordan are generally ruins and only groups of squalid hovels now occupy their sites. The inhabitants of these places are for the most part a very degraded class, and can scarcely be said to have any fixed occupation. In the Jordan Valley, the heat of summer is always great, and sometimes exceedingly oppressive. There are two seasons, summer and winter, the former, from April to November, rainless or nearly so; the latter, from November to April, rainy. Palestine was once very fertile, and might be so again. Generally speaking, the country has such products as peas, beans, wheat, barley, grapes, figs, olives, apricots, lemons, oranges, and dates. In 1517 the Ottomans came in and made Palestine a part of the Turkish Empire. It was snatched from the Sultan by Mohammed Ali, in 1832, but Europe intervened, and in 1841 it was given back again. Lands are not sold there as in the United States.

THE SCOTTISH PREACHER IRVING.

Give a brief account of Mr. Irving, the preacher that made such a sensation in London, England, something like fifty years ago. He professed to speak to God in the unknown tongue.

Answer.—Edward Irving was a native of Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, where he was born Aug. 4, 1792. He received the first rudiments of classical education of the village schoolmaster, which he completed at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated in 1809. In his 19th year he was appointed mathematical teacher in the academy at Haddington, and in 1812 he went to fill a similar place at Kirkcaldy, where he remained seven years, pursuing at the same time the studies required of a candidate for the ministry of the Church of Scotland. In 1815 he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Annan; continued to teach till 1818, and then went to Edinburgh. In 1819 he became the assistant of Dr. Chalmers, in Glasgow, where he continued three years, when he went to take charge of the Caledonian Church, Hatton Garden, London. He soon gathered unusually large and intelligent congregations to hear him, who were attracted by his eloquence and power, and by his plain-spoken originality. He was led to study the second and personal advent of Christ, then infant baptism, etc., and in 1830 was tried by the London Presbytery for heretical views, but left them, appealed to his own church and was sustained. He became associated with Henry Drummond in the same year, joined "the prophets," as they were called, of Albury Park. These "prophets" were twenty or thirty persons

assembled together at the place named, for the express purpose of studying or elucidating "the sublime science of sacred prophecy." At this time there were certain persons at Port Glasgow, in Scotland, and in London who were said to be spiritually possessed—that is, they spoke words under the influence of a supernatural power, partly in the vernacular and partly in forms of language that were not known, and in connection with them the healing of the sick. The same phenomena appeared in London, at first in private meetings of members of the established church, and afterward in Irving's congregation. By countenancing them he lost his popularity, his writings were censured, he was expelled by the trustees from the building which had been erected for his use, but 800 adherents went with him, and continued their organization in Newman street. Irving, in 1833, was deposed on the ground of heresy and irregularity. He ceased, on his deposition, from fulfilling priestly functions, but on April 5, 1833, he believed he had received this supernatural ordination, when by the hands of the apostle he was constituted "angel," or chief pastor, or bishop of the church. His health began to fail, and, in obedience, as he supposed, to the word of the Holy Spirit, he set out in the autumn of 1834 on a journey to Scotland, when he died. There grew up out of the movement with which the name of Irving is identified, a body which has been the subject of considerable discussion. At present space forbids any further notice of it. Irving's was a life of singular blamelessness, his morals were untainted, his conscientiousness exact.

FALLING STARS.

SOUTH BEND, Ind.
Give an account of falling stars by telling what they are and what causes them to fall and where they fall.
SILAS H. HIGGINS.

Answer.—Astronomers divide meteors into several classes—aerial meteors, as winds, tornadoes, etc.; aqueous meteors, as fogs, rain, snow, hail, etc.; luminous meteors, or those due to the action of elements in the air, as rainbows, halos, parhelas, mirages, etc.; electrical meteors, as lightnings, auroras, etc.; and igneous meteors, as shooting or falling stars, star-showers, bolides or fire-balls, aerolites or meteorites, etc. In present usage, says Professor Newton, the term meteor is generally limited to the last group, or to the igneous meteors. The meteorites are all evidently fragments, not separate formations. They are, says the same authority, in the heavens, to some extent at least, grouped in streams along the orbits of known comets, and hence have a common origin with them. The continuity of these streams, the double and multiple character of Biela's and other comets, and the steady diminution of comets in brilliancy at successive returns, seems to argue a continuous breaking up of the comet into fragments by some cause, probably by the sun's heat. This view is strengthened by the fact that the meteoric irons and stones bring with them carbonic acid, which is known to

form so prominent a part of the comet's tail. It is now universally admitted that igneous meteors are caused by small bodies which have been traveling about the sun in their orbits, but now come into the earth's atmosphere, and, in general, burn up. The stony meteorites have in general the shape of broken fragments of stone. The outside is usually covered with a thin black crust, which is evidently due to a melting of the surface in the atmosphere. There have been found at various times and places, loose iron masses that are assumed to be of meteoric origin, because their peculiar form, their peculiar chemical composition, and their peculiar crystalline structure are like those of the iron masses that have been seen in several instances to come down from meteors. Shooting stars are seen on any clear, moonlight night; they leave behind, many of them, a bright cloud of phosphorescent light; the meteors and their trains have various colors—white, green, blue, yellow, scarlet, etc.; the duration of the flight is generally less than a second of time, but the brighter ones may last several seconds; the meteorites contain no elements, so far as we know, which have not been found on the earth, but these elements are compounded differently from any terrestrial minerals; sometimes they reach the earth, and again are consumed in their course.

NEMESIS—HOLY GRAIL.

BRIDGEVILLE, Ohio.
1. Who was Nemesis? 2. What is meant by the Holy Grail?
O. L. MARTIN.

Answer—1. In Grecian mythology Nemesis was a female divinity who appears to have been regarded as the personification of the righteous anger of the gods. She is represented as inflexibly severe to the proud and insolent. According to Hesiod, she was the daughter of Night, though she is sometimes called a daughter of Erebus or of Oceanus. The Greeks believed that the gods were enemies of excessive human happiness, and that there was a power that preserved a proper compensation in human affairs from which it was impossible for the sinner to escape. This power was embodied in Nemesis, and she was in an especial manner the avenger of family crimes and the humbler of the overbearing. There was a celebrated temple sacred to her at Rhamnus, one of the boroughs of Attica, about sixty stadia distant from Marathon; the inhabitants of that place considered her the daughter of Oceanus. According to a myth preserved by Pausanias, Nemesis was the mother of Helen by Jupiter, and Leda, the reputed mother of Helen, was only in fact her nurse, but this myth seems to have been invented in later time to represent the divine vengeance which was inflicted on the Greeks and Trojans through the instrumentality of Helen. 2. The Holy Grail was one of the leading themes of medieval romance, fabled to have been the cup or chalice

used by Christ in the Last Supper, and in which He changed the wine into His blood. This chalice, preserved by Joseph of Arimathea, had also received the blood which flowed from the side of Christ on the cross. This is what the apocryphal gospel of Nicodemus says, but no early mention is made of it by either profane or ecclesiastical writers. In the twelfth century, at the dawn of romantic literature, it reappeared as the central subject of the prophecies of Merlin, and the object of the adventurous quest of the Knights of the Round Table. Romance mixed it up with the struggles in Spain between Moors and Christians, and with the foundation of the order of Templars in Palestine.

LONG BRANCH AND ELBERON.

As Long Branch is a place of great interest just at this time, will you please give a good description of it? From the reading of dispatches during the last week or two some do not know whether Elberon or Long Branch is the real name, or whether Elberon is simply the name of a hotel there. A full description will be interesting just at this time.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Long Branch is on the Atlantic coast of New Jersey, and consists of a strip of sandy beach, which is backed by a bluff. The name of the old village which is there is Long Branch, and this has been extended to what has become quite an extensive locality. As the years have gone by a series of hotels have been built along the bluff, with a wide and well-kept avenue between them and the ocean, until now they extend in close order for several miles. Most of the hotels are long, low frame buildings, of no particular order of architecture, with wide verandas and balconies extending around them, and with lawns in front. The beach below the bluff is given over to bathing-houses, and a few pavilions stand upon the edge of the bluff. The hotels are capable of accommodating from 100 to 1,000 guests. Interspersed along the beach are a number of very elegant private cottages, and some few boarding houses. The hotels at the Branch are excellent guides for describing the several localities. Elberon is simply a hotel, below the West End, and is a part of the Branch. In order that the public might know definitely where the late President Garfield ebbed his life away, the dispatches came from that part of the Branch to which he had been taken. Elberon, it is announced, is to be made a postoffice.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

Is Lookout Mountain in the State of Tennessee. **DUNHAM, III.**
ANDREW TERRILL.

Answer.—Lookout Mountain is an eminence very near where the States of Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama meet. The mountain of the battle above the clouds is an eminence which is more extensive than its name seems to indicate. It extends from its bold, bald brow, opposite Chattanooga, back from the Tennessee, toward the southwest, and forms really a miniature range which stretches for some miles to the Alabama border. Properly speaking the

Lookout Mountain Range is in the three States. Its north-northeastern point, the brow, which is opposite Moccasin Point, is in Tennessee; the main range is in Georgia, and the extreme south-southwestern end forms the boundary between the States of Georgia and Alabama. The distance between Moccasin Point and the Georgia line is very little, and boundary lines between States where such mountains come in are not always easy to trace. There is considerable difference of opinion among those who are considered good authorities on such subjects, one placing Lookout in Alabama, three locating it in Georgia, and one is apparently not clear as to what State should be credited with the mountain. The above will explain these seeming contradictions.

SCHENECTADY—ROCHESTER—PHILADELPHIA.

GILBERT, Story Co., Iowa.

1. In what year was Schenectady founded, and when was it burned by the Indians? 2. How many cities are there in the United States larger than Rochester? 3. How many counties are there in New York? 4. Is Philadelphia the second largest city in the United States?

JAMES LIDDLE.

Answer.—1. The town of Schenectady was settled by Arent Van Corlear, in 1661, and a fort was built. In February, 1690, the Indians and French attacked the place, burned it, and the most of the inhabitants were massacred during a violent snowstorm. 2. According to the last census, Rochester, N. Y., had 89,363 of a population. Some of the cities larger than Rochester are as follows:

San Francisco.....	233,956
Washington, D. C.....	147,307
Chicago.....	503,304
Louisville.....	123,645
New Orleans.....	216,140
Baltimore.....	332,190
Boston.....	362,535
Detroit.....	116,342
St. Louis.....	350,522
Jersey City.....	120,728
Newark.....	136,400
Albany.....	90,903
Brooklyn.....	566,689
Buffalo.....	155,137
New York.....	1,206,590
Cincinnati.....	255,708
Cleveland.....	160,142
Philadelphia.....	846,984
Pittsburg.....	156,381
Providence.....	104,850
Milwaukee.....	115,578

3. New York has sixty counties. 4. Philadelphia is the second city in point of population in the United States.

NATIONAL BANK NOTES.

VAIL, Iowa.

Are national bank notes a full legal tender for payment of all kinds of obligations, whether to government or individuals?

M.

Answer.—The Revised Statutes indicate for what demands national bank notes may be received: "After any association receiving circulating notes under this title (National Banks) has caused its promise to pay such notes on demand to be signed by the president or vice president and cashier thereof, in such manner as to make them obligatory promissory notes, payable on demand, at its place of business, such association may issue and circulate the same as

money. And the same shall be received at par in all parts of the United States in payment of taxes, excises, public lands, and all other dues to the United States, except duties on imports; and also for all salaries and other debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations, and associations within the United States, except interest on the public debt and in redemption of the national currency."

REFUNDING OPERATIONS.

To settle a dispute, please answer: Has Secretary Windom any authority or law for his late refunding operations?
HOPKINS, Mo.
JESSE LEASWELL.

Answer.—There has been considerable discussion in regard to the question of the power of the Secretary of the Treasury to refund. It was held by some that, under an old statute, he had that power, but that was not clear to all. Secretary Windom has begun the refunding operations, and his policy has been so successful that Congress will undoubtedly ratify his acts. At one time it was contended by some that a refunding bill would be necessary to make such operations legal, but it is now generally acknowledged that his course was wise, and will receive Congressional approval, which will dispose of the entire question.

ALL FOOLS' DAY.

The young folks in our neighborhood wished to ask "Our Curiosity Shop" why the first day of April is called "All Fools' Day."
BEDFORD, Mich.
D. W. SUMNER.

Answer.—The oft-repeated question, as often answered, still can elicit no thoroughly accurate or satisfactory reply. In the literature of the last century there are found many references to it, and yet beyond that we can scarcely go. The antiquaries appear to be unable to trace the origin of the custom of April-fooling. One suggestion is to the following effect: It is supposed that the custom of playing tricks on the first day of April was derived from some ancient pagan custom, such as the Huli festival among the Hindoos, or the Roman Feast of the Fools. The practice prevails in many countries, known by various names, and this might indicate that the custom dates away back to the early history of the race.

THE ISRAELITES IN EGYPT.

How long were the Israelites in Egypt, and how long were they in bondage?
PRAIRIEVILLE Ill.
J. SENNAN.

Answer.—Dr. Philip Schaff says they were 400 years in Egypt, first under the favor, and then under the oppressive tyranny of the Pharaohs. Another authority says: "How long they remained in the 'house of bondage' (for the Hebrews were not the only slaves in Egypt), cannot be determined, there being Scriptural testimony for 430 as well as for about 210 years." Professor Felix Adler says: "Four hundred and thirty years they served their pitiless taskmasters, according to Ex. xl, 40; Gen. xv, 13, gives the somewhat lower estimate of 400 years, while Ex. vi, 16, it would appear that only three generations, Levi, Kohath, and Amram, the father of Moses, had passed between the first

settlement of the Israelites in Goshen, and their final deliverance."

NEW YORK STATE AND WASHINGTON.

I have heard it said that New York State did not vote for Washington the first time he was elected President. Please state whether such was the fact, and what was the reason.
RACINE, Wis.
QUILL.

Answer.—Washington received every electoral vote cast in all the colleges of the States then voting for President. New York, the eleventh State ratifying the constitution, did not cast any electoral vote at that election, because she had not time after her ratification, late in the autumn of 1788, to provide for holding the election within the time prescribed.

GENERAL SHERIDAN.

Will you please inform me if Lieutenant General Sheridan was promoted to that rank before or after General Sherman was promoted to his present rank?
EOLIA, Mo.
E. J. C. BEALER.

Answer.—General W. T. Sherman was made General on the vacation of that grade by General Grant, March 4, 1869. On the same day General Sheridan was made Lieutenant General.

A QUESTION OF PRONUNCIATION.

Should "g" in Elgin be pronounced soft or hard? I know that people in this county pronounce the word as though spelled Eljin. Intelligent Scotchmen pronounce "g" hard, as in begin. Who are right?
C. L. B.

Answer.—Scotchmen had Elgin before America, and in Great Britain that word is pronounced with "g" hard. In this country, however, custom has made it correct to pronounce Elgin with "g" soft.

THE QUEEN OF ITALY.

Is the Queen of Italy the wife of the King, and if not, why?
ADAIR, Ill.
M. R.

Answer.—The wife of King Humbert I is Queen Margarita, the daughter of the late Prince Ferdinando of Piedmont, Duke of Genoa.

"COVER THEM OVER WITH BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS."

Inform me who was the author of "Cover Them Over with Beautiful Flowers?" It has been extensively published in the papers of the Pacific coast and credited to Will M. Carleton, while I alone in this neighborhood contend that Professor Wood is the author. If wrong, I want to abandon the argument.
CHERRY CREEK.
N. KINSLEY.

Answer.—Will Carleton is the author of the poem, so you had best abandon the argument and tell your neighbors that they are right.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS—BRASS.

1. Who were the five commissioners appointed to settle the Alabama claims? 2. When was the process of the manufacture of brass first known? We read in Exodus, xxxv, 32, that the Lord appointed Bezaleel "to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass."
MITCHELLVILLE, Iowa.
H.

Answer.—1. The high commission consisted, on the part of the United States of Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State; Robert C. Schenck, the American Minister to Great Britain; Samuel Nelson, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court; E. Rockwood Hoar, ex-United States Attorney General, and George H. Williams, ex-Senator from Oregon. On the part of Great Britain the members were the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, Lord President of the Queen's Privy Council; the Right Hon. Sir Stafford

Northcote, Bart., M. P.; Sir Edward Thornton, K. C. B., British Minister to the United States; Sir John Macdonald, K. C. B., and Minister of Justice of Canada, and Professor Monaghan Bernard, of the University of Oxford. 2. Paton says that "although the term brass frequently occurs in Scripture from the era of Job downward, there is no indication that brass, as known in modern times, was in use previous to the period of the Roman empire." In McClintock and Strong's "Cyclopedia" we find the following: "Brass occurs in the authorized version of the Old Testament, but doubtless inaccurately, as brass is a factitious metal, and the Hebrews were not acquainted with the compound of copper and zinc known by that name. In most places of the Old Testament the correct translation would be copper, although it may sometimes possibly mean bronze, a compound of copper and tin, as in the Chaldee form used by Daniel. Indeed, a simple metal was obviously intended, as we see from Deut. viii., 9, 'Out of whose hills thou mayst dig brass;' and Job xxviii., 2, 'Brass is molten out of the stone;' and Deut. xxxiii., 25, 'Thy shoes shall be iron and brass,' which seems to be a promise that Asher should have a district rich in mines, which we know to have been the case, since Eusebius speaks of the Christians being condemned to work in them. Some such alloy as bronze is probably also the metal denoted in the New Testament."

RECENT SPANISH HISTORY.

LAFAYETTE, Ind.

1. What was the immediate cause of the abdication of Queen Isabella? 2. Upon what grounds did Don Carlos claim the Spanish throne? 3. When and how was Castelar made President, and why was the Republic so suddenly discontinued? 4. What relation was Marshal Serrano to Isabella and Alphonso?

F. S. MILLS.

Answer.—1. Queen Isabella, after some years of a stormy reign, began to abridge still further the rights and freedom of the people. In 1866, under the influence of the priests and a Cabinet, she abolished the freedom of the press, and placed public instruction in the hands of the clergy. These and other reactionary measures gave rise to insurrections, and, as the misdeeds of Isabella's administration and her own personal misconduct continued, there was created widespread dissatisfaction. The revolt at Cadiz in 1868 soon swept over Spain, and resulted in the defeat of the royal army at Alcolea, Sept. 28, and the flight of Isabella to France. Her deposition was declared at Madrid, Sept. 29, and on June 25, 1870, she abdicated her claim in favor of Alphonso. 2. Isabella was the eldest daughter of Ferdinand VII. and his fourth wife, Maria Christina. The question of her succession to the throne caused a sanguinary civil war. Ferdinand had no son, and repealed the Salic law, introduced into Spain by Philip V., and named the expected offspring of his fourth marriage to succeed him. This excluded Don Carlos, his brother, who was then heir-presumptive by virtue of the old law. Don Carlos took up arms, supported by a large

body of adherents, known as Carlists. The son of this Don Carlos, born in 1818, kept up the contest, several times visiting Spain, once as late as 1860, with 3,000 men, but was defeated at Tortosa, and made prisoner. He was soon set at liberty, upon renouncing his claim to the throne, but he at once retracted his renunciation. His successor was his brother, who, in 1868, resigned his claims to the crown in favor of his son, that Don Carlos with whom we are now best acquainted. 3. After a brief reign, from December, 1870, to February, 1873, Amadeus abdicated, and several Presidents were chosen, and as rapidly retired. Sept. 7, 1873, Castelar became President, but speedily the Internationals began a series of revolutionary movements, and insurrections broke out in various cities, chiefly in the South and Southeast, while the Carlists infested the North. When his ministry was found to be in the minority, Castelar resigned Jan. 2, 1874. Then the royal uprising progressed until Jan. 9, 1875, when Alphonso, Isabella's son, landed in Spain, having been proclaimed king by the armies of the center and North and in Madrid. 4. The "Statesman's Year Book" for 1881, says Alphonso is the son of Queen Isabel, and of the Infante Francisco. Serrano was one of the reputed lovers of the Queen.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

ST. MARYS, Kan.
Who was Florence Nightingale? Give a short sketch of her life, etc. S. HATHAWAY.

Answer.—Florence Nightingale was born at Florence, Italy, in the month of May, 1820. Her father was Wm. E. Shore, a banker, who inherited the estates of Peter Nightingale, and, as the will provided, changed his name to that of the person whose property fell to him. Florence was the younger daughter. She enjoyed all the advantages, which were numerous, of persons in affluent circumstances, and early in life attained remarkable proficiency in several branches of education. Very soon her philanthropic instincts led her to study, systematically, the best ways and means to ameliorate the condition of the race, physically and morally. In the search for information, she took up her abode in 1851 in the institution of Protestant Sisters of Mercy, established at Kaiserswerth, on the Rhine. Soon her activity showed itself, and we find her aiding personally and pecuniarily the Governesses, Sanatorium, which was restored and given a thorough reorganization. This work had scarcely been accomplished when Miss Nightingale had her attention directed to the inefficiency and mismanagement of the British military hospitals in the Crimea. One of the plans suggested for their reform was the formation of a select band of lady superintendents and of nurses to direct and minister in the hospital wards. Miss Nightingale, at the request of the late Lord Herbert, then Secretary of War, undertook the organization and conduct of that body, and soon, where confusion had reigned, there was order,

and, by affording care and consolation, she alleviated the sufferings of all, saved the lives of many, and received the benedictions of a nation. A testimonial fund of £50,000, subscribed by the public in recognition of her noble services, was, at her special request, devoted to the formation and maintenance of an institution for the training and employment of nurses. Miss Nightingale has greatly assisted the cause by her writings. Her name is a household word in Great Britain, and, indeed, all over the Christian world it is the synonym of earnest, successful work in behalf of the sick and suffering.

THE "GREEK SLAVE"—PALISSY.

WHITE EARTH AGENCY, Minn.

1. I wish for information in regard to the statue (original) of the "Greek Slave." 2. Palissy, the potter, a sketch of his life and work, and the authority associating the name of Raphael with pottery and majolica ware. NOKOMIS.

Answer.—1. The "Greek Slave" was the creation of the famous American sculptor, Hiram Powers. The original is now, we are informed, in the A. T. Stewart collection in New York. 2. Bernard Palissy, the potter, was born at Capella-Biron, near Agen, France, about the year 1510. He was apprenticed to a potter, and, afterwards, because of his knowledge of geometry, engaged for some time in land-surveying. After laboring, at great expense and hardship, for sixteen years, he succeeded in discovering the method of enameling pottery, and his experiments led to new and valuable chemical observations. Palissy had in the meantime become a Protestant, and for his religious opinions was pursued by persecutions; he was imprisoned at Bordeaux during the reign of Henry II., but was released through the intervention of some of the nobility, and later became 'maker of the King's rustic potteries,' when he removed to Paris, where he was engaged in the decoration of the gardens of the Tuileries; this office saved him from the horrible massacre of St. Bartholomew. Toward the end of the reign of Henry III. he once more became involved in difficulties because of his religion, and in 1588 he was arrested and confined in the Bastille, where he died in 1590. Probably the most remarkable of his glass paintings is a representation of the myth of Psyche, after Raphael. There are several collections in Paris of his pottery—jars, vases, jugs, salvers, etc., generally small in size, but highly finished, and these are greatly valued for their fineness of material, elegance of form, and beauty of decoration.

JINGO AND JINGOISM.

CHICAGO.

What is the origin of the terms "Jingo" and "Jingoism," as used in articles on English politics?

Answer.—These terms came into being about the closing days of the late war between Russia and Turkey. The word "Jingoes" was applied to those whose attitude toward Russia was hostile during that struggle. The hostile following was particularly strong at the British capital, and was comprised

of those who were members of both the great political parties. Like very many such movements or opinions, it became popular in the places for public gatherings. Justin McCarthy says the word itself came into existence in the following manner: Some Tyrtaeus of the tap-tub, some Korner of the music halls, had composed a ballad which was sung at one of those caves of harmony every night amidst the tumultuous applause of excited patriots. The refrain of this war song contained the spirit-stirring words:

"We don't want to fight, but, by jingo, if we do, We've got the ships, we've got the men, we've got the money, too."

Some one whose pulses this lyric outburst of national pride failed to stir, called the party of its enthusiasts the Jingoes. The name was caught up at once, and the party was universally known as the Jingoes.

IRELAND—MALTA.

1. When and by whom was Ireland discovered? 2. Where is Malta, and to what nation does it belong?

DANIEL RYAN.

Answer.—1. The trouble with such questions is that when we go back we generally find that tribes were there when the discoveries were made. The early history of many countries is, like that of Ireland, enveloped in obscurity, and surrounded by myths and legends which even modern scholarship is not able always to dissipate. 2. Malta is a British possession in the Mediterranean.

QUEEN ZENOBIA.

BEVIER, Mo.

I would like "Our Curiosity Shop" to give a sketch of Queen Zenobia. MOLLIE MELVILLE.

Answer.—Queen Zenobia was the daughter of an Arab chief. Her second husband was Septimius Odenathus, Prince of Palmyra. He was successful in his brilliant campaigns against the Persians, and became associated by Gallienus in the government of the empire, and was murdered about 266 or 267 A. D., by his nephew Macrinus. The assassin was put to death by Zenobia, who ascended the throne and for five years governed Palmyra, Syria, and adjoining parts of the East, independent of the Roman power, and compelled one of the Roman generals sent against her to retreat, with loss, into Europe. In 272, however, Aurelian defeated her in two pitched battles, one at Antioch, the other at Emesa; then she shut herself up in Palmyra, and prepared for a vigorous defense; but her eastern allies failed her, and the Romans were not to be deterred. So, while she was escaping, she was captured and taken to Rome. There she was treated with much consideration, was given an elegant villa at Tibur, where she passed the rest of her life, and her daughters married into noble Roman families. Her son by her first husband, was given a small principality in Armenia.

THE OATH OF OFFICE.

HARDIN, Iowa.

Who may legally administer the oath of office to the President of the United States? M. L. E.

Answer.—The Constitution provides (Article

(II, Sec. 1) that "before he [the President] enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation: 'I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.'" There is no law on the subject as to who shall administer the oath, although the custom has been for the Chief Justice to swear in the President. Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, of New York, administered the oath of office taken by Washington, and several of the Presidents have taken the oath twice that there might be no question as to its legality.

SENATOR B. K. BRUCE.

I would like a sketch of the life of ex-Senator Bruce, of Mississippi.

FOND DU LAC, WIS.
SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—Senator Blanche K. Bruce has had a remarkable career. He was by birth a Virginian, having been born in Prince Edward County, in that State, of slave parents, March 1, 1841. While he was a boy he removed to Mississippi, with which he has been so largely identified. In the year 1869 he became a planter, and soon entered actively into the political field of his neighborhood and State. For several years he was a member of the Mississippi Levee Board, and Sheriff and Tax Collector of Bolivar County, and was elected to the United States Senate Feb. 3, 1875, as a Republican, to succeed Henry R. Pease, Republican, and took his seat March 4, 1875, and was succeeded by a Democrat, James Z. George. Senator Bruce received a limited education, but made the most of the few advantages he had, and by his intelligence, his energy, and his ability took a high place as a leader of his race. He was the first colored man who ever presided over the United States Senate.

SOME SCOTTISH HISTORY.

James V., King of Scotland, married Mary, of the house of Guise. Born to that marriage were three children in the order named: James, Prior of St. Andrews, afterward Earl of Murray; Robert, and Mary, afterward Queen of Scots. Both of these brothers came to man's estate (so says Buchanan's "History of Scotland," printed in London, from the Latin original A. D. 1722). Why did not one of the brothers succeed to the throne of Scotland, instead of Mary?

O. R. BROWN,

Answer.—The celebrated Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, was the only legitimate offspring of James V. She was the daughter of James and Mary of Lorraine, daughter of Claude, Duke of Guise. It is scarcely probable that any well informed historian claimed that "born of that marriage of James and Mary of Guise were three children," and that those three were the Earl Murray, or Moray, Robert, and Mary Queen of Scots. Even a slight acquaintance with Scottish history would settle that question beyond all appeal.

THE GALAXY.

Does the galaxy consist of stars, or what is it composed of? How far is it from the earth to the nearest star outside of our own system?

MADISON, NEB.
WM. M. ORR.

Answer.—The galaxy or milky way owes its peculiar appearance to the blended light of

myriads of small stars too minute to be individually recognized by the naked eye, but which are seen in their true character by a telescope of moderate powers. Alpha Centauri is the nearest of the fixed stars, and its distance exceeds the sun's 230,000 times.

VOTE IN 1860.

DEFIANCE, MO.

What were the respective number of Democrats and Republicans in Congress at the time of the rebellion?

J. A. MANGAN.

Answer.—The "Tribune Almanac" for 1861 gives the following as the complexion of the Thirty-seventh Congress:

Senate—	
Republicans.....	29
Democrats.....	32
Vacancies.....	4
House—	
Republicans.....	99
Democrats.....	51
Independents.....	3

BINGEN ON THE RHINE—BOUCICAULT.

IXONIA CENTER, WIS.

1. Who is the author of the poem called "Bingen on the Rhine," and what "legion" is meant in the first line? 2. Is Dion Boucicault an American, and how is his name pronounced?

MARTHA A. LEWIS.

Answer.—1. Mrs. Caroline E. S. Norton was the author of the poem. She was a granddaughter of Richard Brinsley Sheridan and sister of Lady Dufferin and the Duchess of Somerset. We are not aware that the poet had any particular legion in mind when the lines were written. 2. Dion Boucicault was born in the city of Dublin, Dec. 26, 1822. His father was a French refugee, and a merchant in that city. The correct pronunciation of the name is "boo-see-ko," with the accent on the last syllable, but it is generally pronounced with the accent on the first.

GREENBACK QUERIES.

NEWTON, IOWA.

1. Who were the delegates to the Greenback convention from the sixth Congressional District of Iowa? 2. Give the name of the man that presented the name of J. B. Weaver.

M. A. MCCORD.

Answer.—1. We presume the National Greenback Convention that met in this city in June, 1880, is meant. The delegates from the Sixth Congressional District of Iowa were A. A. Ramsey and Minos Miller, according to the roll we have. 2. Congressman Gillette made the speech nominating General Weaver in that convention.

NATIONAL PARKS.

WESTPORT, MO.

Please answer the following and decide a wager: Is the National Park in California? What is the correct pronunciation of Yosemite?

A. R. HOCKETT.

Answer.—Says Professor Hayden, the explorer and geologist: "Only two national parks have ever been made in this country by authority of the General Government, namely, the Yosemite Valley and the Yellowstone National Park." Yosemite is pronounced Yo-sem-i-te, with the accent on the "sem."

NOAH AND THE ARK.

THORNBERG, IOWA.

How long was Noah building the ark?

SABBATH SCHOOL.

Answer.—It is doubtful, says Dr. Schaff,

where the ark was built, and as to how long it took. The weight of opinion is that it was from 100 to 120 years. See Genesis v., 32; vi., 6; vi., 3; and I. Peter, iii., 20.

BEST TIME OF MAUD S.

PALESTINE, Ind.
What is the best time ever made by Maud S?
W. THOS. LOEHR.

Answer.—Maud S. made a mile in 2:10½ on the Rochester track Aug. 11, 1881.

THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE.

MORGANVILLE, Clay Co., Kan.
Why, in the Missouri Compromise, was 36 deg. 30 min. taken as the boundary between the slave and the free States?
H. S. JELUM.

Answer.—The great discussion in Congress on the admission of Missouri marked an epoch in the history of this Nation. Missouri was admitted as a slave State, and at the same time an ordinance was enacted that from all the territory west of Missouri and north of 36 deg. and 30 min.—which was the southern boundary of the new State—slavery should be forever excluded.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S IMPEACHMENT.

GRAND JUNCTION, Iowa.
What were the charges made by the House of Representatives against President Johnson? What were the three charges of which the Senate found him guilty and eight upon which they refused to pass judgment? Give a short history of the impeachment and trial of President Johnson.
J. M. U.

Answer.—As early as Jan. 7, 1867, the Hon. James M. Ashley, member of Congress from Ohio, arose in the House and formally impeached President Johnson of high crimes and misdemeanors, charging him with usurpation of power and violating law in corruptly using the appointing power, the pardoning power, the veto power, in corruptly disposing of the public property of the United States, in corruptly interfering in elections, etc. The Judiciary Committee were directed to make a thorough investigation; the report was made; five of the committee favored impeachment, two thought that the subject should be laid on the table, and two Democrats were opposed to the whole proceedings. The reports were taken up Dec. 6 and 7, and the resolution "That Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors," was lost—yeas, 56; nays, 109; absent or not voting, 22. The second effort, which resulted in the trial, dates from Monday, Feb. 24, 1868, when the House of Representatives resolved to impeach the President of high crimes and misdemeanors, of which the Senate was apprised, and arrangements were made for the trial. On Monday, March 3, articles of impeachment were agreed upon in the House, and March 5 the articles were presented to the Senate by the managers on the part of the House. The articles were eleven in number, and cannot be reproduced here because of their length. Briefly, they were; 1. That President Johnson, unlawfully and in violation of the Constitution, removed Secretary Stanton. 2. That he appointed General Lorenzo Thomas Secretary of War ad Interim, without the advice and consent of the Senate. 3. The same in substance as

the one preceding it. 4. That he conspired with General Thomas and others with intent, by intimidation and threats, unlawfully to hinder and prevent Secretary Stanton from holding the office of Secretary of War. 5. That he conspired with General Thomas and others to prevent and hinder the execution of the act entitled "an act regulating tenure of certain civil offices." 6. That he conspired with General Thomas by force to seize, take and possess the property of the United States in the War Department, then in Secretary Stanton's custody and charge. 7. The same in substance as the preceding one. 8. That he attempted unlawfully to control the disbursements of the moneys appropriated for the military service, and the War Department. 9. That he instructed General William H. Emory that that part of the act of March 2, 1867, was unconstitutional, and that General Emory was to obey and act upon only such orders as the President might make, and give, and was to disregard the law which provided that "all orders and instructions relating to military operations, issued by the President or Secretary of War, shall be issued through the General of the army, and, in case of his disability, through the next in rank." 10. That he, unmindful of the high duties of his office and the dignity and proprieties thereof, and of the harmony and courtesies which ought to exist between the Executive and the legislative branches of the government, attempted to bring into disgrace, ridicule, contempt, and reproach the Congress, and in pursuance of this made many public speeches "and delivered, with a loud voice, certain intemperate, inflammatory, and scandalous harangues, and did therein utter loud threats and bitter menaces as well against Congress as the laws of the United States," etc. 11. That he declared that the Thirty-ninth Congress was not a Congress of the United States, thereby denying and intending to deny that the legislation of Congress was valid or obligatory upon him, except in so far as he saw fit to approve the same; and also denying and intending to deny the power of the Thirty-ninth Congress to propose amendments to the Constitution. These were, in brief, the charges. On May 16 it was voted to take up the eleventh article first; vote, 34 to 19. The vote on this article was 35 to 19. On May 26 the second and third articles were taken up and voted upon, with the same result.

THE TICHBORNE CASE.

LOUISVILLE, Ill.
To settle a dispute, please give a short history of the celebrated Tichborne case, when commenced, when disposed of, and the questions involved.

F. G. COCKRELL.

Answer.—The Tichborne case reads like a highly-colored work of fiction, and may be briefly given as follows: Roger Charles Tichborne was born Jan. 5, 1829, and was, after his father, heir to the title and large estates of his uncle, Sir

Edward. Roger was educated in France and at the Roman Catholic College of Stonyhurst, and, when 20 years of age, entered the army. In the year 1852, Roger wooed the daughter of Sir Edward, his cousin Kate, but her parents were opposed to the match, and the young man resigned his commission in the army and went to sea. On June 19, 1853, he arrived at Valparaiso, and on April 20, 1854, sailed from Rio de Janeiro for New York in the ship *Bella*, a vessel that was lost. In March of the year 1853, Sir Edward died, and was succeeded by his brother James, the father of Roger; and Sir James died June 11, 1862, and, as it was believed Roger had been lost at sea, was succeeded by Alfred, his second son, and brother of Roger: Alfred died in February, 1866, and was succeeded by a posthumous son, born in May, 1866. Lady Tichborne, in the meantime, was not on "good terms" with the rest of the family, and in her peculiar and pronounced way manifested her feelings. In 1865 she began to advertise in the English and Australian newspapers for Roger, who, it will be remembered, had been absent, i. e., dead, nearly twelve years. In the year following a butcher of Wagga Wagga, Australia, supposed to be Arthur Orton, but calling himself Thomas Castro, announced that he was Roger Charles Tichborne, and that he had been saved from the wreck of the ship *Bella*. This person, after some correspondence with Lady Tichborne, set sail for England, reaching London on Christmas, 1866, and in the month of January, of the next year, met Lady Tichborne at Paris, and was accepted by her as her son, and furnished with funds. Lady Tichborne was almost the only member of the family who recognized him, all the others repudiating him as an impostor. For some months he went about England collecting evidence, securing witnesses, and obtaining such information in reference to the real Roger as would be valuable. In March the first action was commenced by the "claimant" filing a bill in chancery, the real issue of which was to enable him to prove himself to be the veritable Roger, and the rightful owner of the title and estates. The case did not come to trial for nearly four years, because of commissions being sent to South America and Australia; and in the interval Lady Tichborne died. The trial began May 11, 1871, and, with two adjournments, it continued 103 days, till March 6, 1872, when the jury interposed, declaring themselves satisfied that the "claimant" was not Roger Tichborne, and he was non-suited. He was at once ordered into custody to be tried for perjury, but was later released on bail. The perjury trial was commenced April 23, 1874, and continued 188 days, to Feb. 28, 1874, when he was found guilty and was sentenced to fourteen years of penal servitude; he was sent to Millbank, and later transferred to Dartmoor prison. The estates of the Tichborne were valued at \$24,000 a year. The first trial

was before the Court of Common Pleas, and the perjury trial was before the Court of the Queen's Bench. It was settled beyond reasonable doubt that the "claimant" was Arthur Orton, who emigrated from London, his native place, to Australia, and because of evil-doing changed his name to Castro. There are, however, many in England who believed, and still claim, that Orton is Roger Charles Tichborne.

ST. PAUL AND FORT SNELLING.

DUNLAP, IOWA.

1. When and for what purpose was Fort Snelling, Minn., built? 2. Also, when and by whom was the city of St. Paul founded? H. L. PRESTON.

Answer.—1. We have consulted the interesting "Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society," and from that valuable work have gleaned the following facts: In August, 1820, Colonel Snelling took command of the post Fort St. Anthony, and commenced to erect the permanent buildings, which were completed in the fall of 1822. In 1824, at General Scott's recommendation, the fort was named after its builder. As far back as 1817 Major Long, in a report to the War Department, recommended the site for a permanent fort. In 1819, 300 men of the Sixth Regiment, under command of Colonel Leavenworth, left Detroit for the purpose of commanding the fort. They came by way of Green Bay, and Prairie du Chien; at the latter point a detachment was left, and the remainder ascended the Mississippi. On Sept. 17 they established a cantonment on the south side of the Minnesota, at the present ferry. Then in the summer of 1820, as stated, Colonel Snelling arrived, took command, and Fort Snelling began. The post was established at that point because of the advantages of the location to control the warlike tribes, and to develop as far as possible the resources of the future State. 2. From "A History of the City of St. Paul and the County of Ramsey," by J. Fletcher Williams, Secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society, we take the following facts: In July, 1837, the Chippewas ceded to the United States all their pine or agricultural lands on the Saint Croix and its tributaries, both in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In September of the same year the Dakotas, by treaty, ceded all their lands east of the Mississippi River, including all the islands in the same. During the winter of 1837-38 there were sounds of the lumberman's ax already along the Saint Croix. At Fort Snelling and Mendota were a number of keen fellows, looking eagerly on and waiting for a good chance to seize on some of the rich territory so soon to open to the impatient speculator. Among them was one Pierre Parrant, a Canadian voyageur, who chanced to be, at the time, hanging around Mendota, waiting for something to turn up. Parrant had lived some time at Sault Ste. Marie, then at Saint Louis, and afterward at Prairie du Chien. He came to Mendota in 1832. He bore not the most enviable character; he was anything but prepossessing personally or morally; and at that time was

probably 60 years of age. Parrant concluded he would not wait for the ratification of the treaty, but sieze on some good spot in advance. But Mr. Williams tells the story thus: "Parrant selected, as the most eligible spot for such a business (selling whisky to the soldiers and Indians, undisturbed by the authorities at the fort), the mouth of the creek which flows out of 'Fountain Cave.' Parrant wisely judged of the convenience of the place to his customers. It was near the river, where the Indians and others could paddle to his very door, and then, too, he could get his supplies easily, and, if necessary, dilute the article profitably by a judicious admixture of the un-falling stream flowing out of the cave. Here, in the coolie, a secluded and lonely gorge in the river bank, Parrant, about the first of June, in the year of our Lord 1838, begun erecting his hovel. He, the immortal *parent* of our saintly city, and of the noble army of whisky sellers who have thriven since that day—it, the first habitation, the first business house of our Christian metropolis of to-day! Thus was our city 'founded'—by a pig-eyed retailer of whisky."

REVERE'S RIDE—CADMUS.

1. Relate briefly the circumstance on which Long-fellow founded his "Midnight Ride of Paul Revere."
2. The Greeks had a legend about "Cadmus sowing dragons' teeth." Can you give it?

CANADIAN SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—1. Colonel Higginson tells the story of Paul Revere's ride in the following words: The Provincial Congress saw to the collecting of arms and ammunition, and stored these at Concord and Worcester. Meanwhile British troops kept arriving in Boston, and General Gage kept sending spies out in disguise, to find where the military stores of the patriots were deposited; and they, in turn, kept careful watch on his movements, lest he should send out to capture these same stores. It was agreed that a special watch should be kept at Charlestown, and that if it was known at any time that a large force was preparing to go out of Boston at night, a lantern should be hung out from the North Church, by way of signal. One night the watchers on the Charlestown side of the Charles River saw the lantern gleaming in the steeple. Instantly all were in motion, and messengers went riding in all directions. Other messengers had meanwhile been sent across in boats from Boston, and one of these, named Paul Revere, mounted a horse immediately after landing, and galloped out to Medford, to a house where the patriotic leaders, John Hancock and Samuel Adams, were sleeping. So he galloped on from house to house, awakening all the principal farmers; and we may well suppose that there was no more sleep in any house that night after Paul Revere had passed by. 2. Cadmus was the son of Agenor, King of Phœnicia, by Telephassa, and, with Phoenix and Cilix, was sent by his father to find Europa, their sister, who had been carried off by Jupiter, and

they were commanded not to return without her. Their search was to no purpose, and, fearing the wrath of Agenor, they determined to settle in various countries. Phoenix established himself in Phœnicia, Cilix in Cilicia, and Cadmus and his mother went to Thrace, where Thasus, a son of Neptune, who had accompanied them, founded a town named after himself. The mother died, and Cadmus went to the Delphic oracle to inquire regarding Europa; the god desired him to cease from troubling himself about her, but to follow a cow as his guide, and build a city where she should lie down. He then went to Phœcis, met a cow belonging to the herds of Pelazon, and followed her through Boeotia to where Thebes afterward stood, and there she rested. Desiring to sacrifice to Minerva, Cadmus sent his companions to bring water from the fountain of Mars, but the fount was guarded by a serpent, or dragon, that killed the greater part of them. Cadmus then slew the serpent, and by the direction of Minerva sowed its teeth, and immediately a crop of armed men sprang up, and slew one another, quarreling through ignorance. The survivors joined Cadmus in building the city.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS.

Of what do the courts in the District of Columbia, consist? Are they the same as in any of the States?

M.

Answer.—The courts of the District remain as established by Congress before the Territorial organization. These are the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, consisting of a Chief Justice and four associate justices, having general jurisdiction in law and equity, and possessing also the powers formerly exercised by the judges of the orphans' courts; and a police court, presided over by a single justice; the justices of the peace are deprived of police jurisdiction, but have authority in all civil causes where less than \$100 is involved, and to bind over persons arrested. The Supreme Court is divided into a circuit court (having all the powers and jurisdiction of a circuit court of the United States) for the trial of civil causes by jury; a criminal court; a district court, with the powers and jurisdiction of a district court of the United States; and a special term for equity and probate matters: each of which is held by a single justice. The general term, held by all the justices, or a majority of them, hears appeals and writs of error from the determinations of a single justice. From final judgments and decrees of the Supreme Court a writ of error appeal lies to the Supreme Court of the United States.

LORENZO DELMONICO.

Give the readers of "Our Curiosity Shop" a sketch of Lorenzo Delmonico.

THORNVILLE, Mich.

A. C. DAVIS.

Answer.—The head of the famous family of restaurateurs, Lorenzo Delmonico, died at Sharon Springs, Sept. 3, 1881, aged 70 years. It is said he wrote his name Del'-Monico, and that he was a Swiss. He was engaged in the business of a restaurateur for some fifty years. For about

thirty years his name has been a familiar one in this country, and was well-known beyond the sea. In the year 1832, he began the career, in which he was so successful, without a penny, and when he died his fortune was placed at \$2,000,000. His restaurants have been for a third of a century the leading ones in this country. Among those who have been feasted and fêted in them may be named Charles Dickens, Bayard, Taylor, General Grant, Emerson, Longfellow, the Grand Duke Alexis, Beecher, Louis Napoleon, Whittier, Hawthorne, Talmage, Tilden, Alger, Tyng, the Prince de Joinville, and thousands of others. Some idea may be obtained of the extent of the business which Delmonico carried on from the fact that he paid in rents alone \$100,000 a year. His servants were an army in themselves, numbering about 450 persons, while his pay-roll amounted to \$15,000 a month, or \$180,000 per annum. The head-cook received, besides living expenses, the salary of \$4,000 a year, and his head waiter \$1,500 a year and board and lodging. Delmonico was a thrifty, enterprising citizen, and was respected by all who knew him.

HAYNE, OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Will the Curiosity Shop give a short sketch of Robert Y. Hayne, of South Carolina, who had the famous debate with Webster?

BOWER, Neb.
N. G.

Answer.—Robert Young Hayne was a native of South Carolina, having been born in St. Paul's Parish, Calleton District, Nov. 10, 1791. The future statesman received his education at Charleston and was admitted to the bar before he was 21 years of age. At the outbreak of the war of 1812 he served in one of the South Carolina regiments, and later resumed practice in Charleston, and in 1814 was elected to the State Legislature, where he served two terms, then was elected Speaker of the House, and subsequently Attorney General of the State. Hayne was elected United States Senator in 1823. He was a vigorous opponent of protection, and in 1824 took the ground that Congress had no constitutional right to impose duties on imports for the protection of domestic manufactures. He also opposed the tariff of 1828, that roused in South Carolina the spirit of resistance that came to crisis in 1832, in which year Clay introduced a resolution in the Senate declaring the expediency of repealing forthwith the duties on all imported articles which did not come into competition with domestic manufactures. Hayne denounced this proposition, and submitted an amendment, which was lost, that all existing duties be so reduced as simply to afford the revenues necessary to defray the actual expenses of the government; and in a speech in support of this declared and defended the right of a State, under the Federal compact, to arrest the operation of a law which she considered unconstitutional. This doctrine led to the great debate between Webster and Hayne. In December, 1832, Hayne was elected Governor of his State, which office he held for two years. Soon after he was elected Mayor of

Charleston. His death occurred at Asheville, N. C., in the month of September, 1840.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

HOLLAND, Iowa.

What were the names of the officers of the Republican National Central Committee during the last Presidential campaign?

Answer.—The officers of the Republican National Committee were, Marshall Jewell, Chairman; S. W. Dorsey, Secretary; G. W. Hooker, Assistant Secretary. The committee consisted of the following named gentlemen, whose residences are indicated as they were at the time of their appointment:

State.	Name.	Residence.
Alabama.....	Paul Strobach.....	Montgomery
Arkansas.....	Stephen W. Dorsey.....	Little Rock
California.....	Horace Davis.....	S. Francisco
Colorado.....	John S. Routt.....	Denver
Connecticut.....	Marshall Jewell.....	Hartford
Delaware.....	Christian Fiebigel.....	Wilmington
Florida.....	Wm. W. Hicks.....	Jacksonville
Georgia.....	Jas. B. Deveau.....	Wash., D. C.
Illinois.....	John A. Logan.....	Chicago
Indiana.....	John C. New.....	Indianapolis
Iowa.....	John S. Runnels.....	Des Moines
Kansas.....	John A. Martin.....	Atchison
Kentucky.....	Wm. O. Bradley.....	Lancaster
Louisiana.....	Henry C. Warmoth.....	Laurence
Maine.....	Wm. P. Frye.....	Lewiston
Maryland.....	James A. Gary.....	Baltimore
Massachusetts.....	John M. Forbes.....	Boston
Michigan.....	James H. Stone.....	Detroit
Minnesota.....	D. M. Sabin.....	Stillwater
Mississippi.....	George C. McKee.....	Jackson
Missouri.....	Chauncey I. Filley.....	St. Louis
Nebraska.....	James W. Dawes.....	Crete
Nevada.....	John W. Mackey.....	Virginia City
New Hampshire.....	Wm. E. Chandler.....	Concord
New Jersey.....	George A. Halsey.....	Newark
New York.....	Thomas C. Platt.....	N. Y. City
North Carolina.....	W. P. Canady.....	Wilmington
Ohio.....	Wm. C. Cooper.....	Mt. Vernon
Oregon.....	D. C. Ireland.....	Astoria
Pennsylvania.....	J. Donald Cameron.....	Harrisburg
Rhode Island.....	Wm. A. Pierce.....	Olneyville
South Carolina.....	Samuel Lee.....	Sumter
Tennessee.....	Wm. Rule.....	Knoxville
Texas.....	Adam G. Malloy.....	Jefferson
Vermont.....	George W. Hooker.....	Brattleboro
Virginia.....	Samuel M. Yost.....	Staunton
West Virginia.....	John W. Mason.....	Grafton
Wisconsin.....	Elihu Enos.....	Waukesha
Territories—		
Arizona.....	R. C. McCormick.....	N. Y. City
Idaho.....	George L. Sharp.....	Salmon City
Montana.....	Alex. H. Beattie.....	Helena
New Mexico.....	Stephen B. Elkins.....	N. Y. City
Utah.....	C. W. Bennett.....	Salt Lake City
Washington.....	Thomas T. Miner.....	Pt. Townsend
Wyoming.....	Joseph M. Carey.....	Cheyenne

SECRETARY STANTON.

PEOSTA, Iowa.

What was the trouble between Andrew Johnson and Congress and his controversy with Mr. Stanton, which came near culminating in his impeachment?

ORIGON.

Answer.—Secretary Stanton was a vigorous supporter of the Congressional measures which were vetoed by President Johnson and re-passed; and he opposed the latter's plan of reconstruction. The "Annual Cyclopaedia" for 1869 sums up the trouble as follows: After Mr. Lincoln's death Mr. Stanton was retained in the Cabinet by Mr. Johnson, but ere long his staunch fidelity to the principles for which the war had been prosecuted made him obnoxious to the President, who, fearing while he disliked him, sought to drive him to resign. Mr. Stanton, however

believing that his remaining in office would better strengthen the aims of his party, refused to resign, although heartily sick of his position. The President, at length, in August, 1867, suspended him from office and made General Grant Secretary ad interim; but when Congress came together in December, 1867, they decided that Mr. Stanton was still Secretary, and General Grant promptly vacated the office in his favor. The President thereupon removed Mr. Stanton on Feb. 21, and appointed General Lorenzo Thomas Secretary ad interim, and a day or two later sent a nomination for Secretary of War to the Senate. These measures, being regarded as violations of the tenure of office act, led to the President's impeachment and trial, Mr. Stanton remaining in office until the conclusion of the trial, when, in May, 1868, the articles of impeachment failing to obtain the constitutional majority, he regarded himself as rebuked from any further continuance in office.

SOME INDIAN NAMES.

BRANDON, WIS.

Will you please tell me the meanings of the following Indian names in the state of Wisconsin? Kewanee, Ahnapee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Menominee, Kenosha, Waukesha, Geneseo, Ozaukee, Kewas-kum, Muskego, Winnebago, Calumet, Wausau, Shawano.

H. M. LAMB.

Answer.—From an interesting article on Indian names, by the Hon. E. M. Haines, in Blanchard's "Discovery and Conquest of the Northwest," the following is taken: Kewanee, "prairie hen;" Manitowoc, "place of the spirit;" or, by some, "Man-i-to-ank, a tree where spirits abide;" Menominee, "eater of wild rice." from "Me-no-min," "wild rice;" Waukesha, "far off;" Ozaukee, "yellow earth;" Muskego, "swamp;" Calumet, "peace pipe;" Shawano, "southern;" Ahnapee, "when, when is it;" Milwaukee, "good earth, good country;" Kenosha, "a long fish, a pike;" Geneseo, "beautiful valley;" Kewaskum, "returning track;" Winnebago, "dirty waters;" Wausau, "far off."

WHO NOMINATED LINCOLN.

GRAND JUNCTION, IOWA.

A gentleman by the name of Jesse Harper, speaking in the interest of the Greenback party of this State, claims to have nominated Abraham Lincoln in the Chicago convention of 1860. Who did nominate him in that convention?

J. M. U.

Answer.—This inquiry takes us back to the great campaign between those wonderful and wonderfully unlike men—Douglas and Lincoln, the giants of the prairies. The Illinois State Convention in 1858 named Abraham Lincoln as the party's candidate for United States Senator. As all the world knows, Douglas was victorious in that struggle. In the result of this contest may be seen the way events were shaping for the National canvass, two years nearer us. In the winter of 1859-60 Republican members of the Legislature held a caucus, and it was proposed to nominate Lincoln for the Vice Presidency, reserving, probably, as a biographer of Mr. Judd suggests, the first place on the ticket for Seward. Mr. Judd insisted that if the name was used in any way it must be at the head of the ticket, and that it was impolitic at that time

to make an issue with any of the then avowed candidates. The caucus finally and unanimously concluded not to give Lincoln's name to the public in any way. When the National Republican Committee met in January, 1860, at the Astor House, New York, Mr. Judd was present, and after a sharp contest saw his point made, when, on the nineteenth ballot, Chicago was chosen as the place for holding the convention. New York, through William M. Evarts, nominated Seward, and Illinois, through Norman B. Judd, chairman of its delegation to that convention, named Lincoln. These are some of the facts leading up to the convention of 1860.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

SOUTHINGTON, Ohio.

The provisions of the Irish land bill passed by Parliament would be of interest at this time. What are the names of the leading men who favored and opposed it?

EMERSON J. SHORT.

Answer.—The new land bill provides that every tenant shall be entitled to a lease for fifteen years; that expenditures for improvements shall go to his credit in giving him a property interest; that on expiration of lease he is entitled to compensation for this property, and, if not paid, to a new lease without change of rent; that in case of disagreements, rate of rent shall be determined by a court; that in fixing rent, valuation is to be made on naked land; that no tenant shall be evicted except for non-payment of fair rent as fixed by the court; that the tenant may sell his property interest in his lease or improvements at any time, and that under certain conditions the tenant may become the purchaser of land held under lease. The new land law is the work of the Liberal Ministry, with Mr. Gladstone at its head. While the bill was going through the House of Commons there were some Liberals who voted against parts of it, but when it was finally passed they voted solidly for it. The Conservatives opposed it in the Commons under the leadership of Sir Stafford Northcote, and in the Lords under the generalship of the Marquis of Salisbury.

GENERAL GARFIELD'S PARENTS.

GOOSE LAKE, IOWA.

Where were the parents of the late President Garfield born? There is a dispute here about it.

M. HICKS.

Answer.—Eliza Ballou was born at Richmond, N. H., May 21, 1801. Abram Garfield was born, in 1799, at Worcester, Otsego County, N. Y.

SOME MEMORABLE DARK DAYS.

MULVANE, Kan.

Please tell me about the dark day of 1816.

R. A. HALL.

Answer.—During the last hundred years there have been an unusually large number of dark days recorded. As has been suggested by several writers, this may have been the result of the careful scientific observations of modern times, as well as of the frequency of these phenomena. The dark day in the beginning of this century about which so much has been said and written occurred Oct. 21, 1816. The first day of the same month and year is also represented as "a close dark day." Mr. Thomas Robie, who took

observations at Cambridge, Mass., has this to offer in regard to the phenomenon: "On Oct. 21 the day was so dark that people were forced to light candles to eat their dinners by; which could not be from an eclipse, the solar eclipse being the fourth of that month." The day is referred to by another writer as "a remarkable dark day in New England and New York," and it is noted, quaintly by a third, that "in October, 1816, a dark day occurred after a severe winter in New England." Nov. 26, 1816, was a dark day in London, and is described "in the neighborhood of Walworth and Camberwell so completely dark that some of the coachmen driving stages were obliged to get down and lead their horses with a lantern." The famous dark day in America was May 19, 1780. The phenomenon began about 10 o'clock in the forenoon. The darkness increased rapidly, and "in many places it was impossible to read ordinary print." There was widespread fear. Many thought that the Day of Judgment was at hand. At that time the Legislature of Connecticut was in session at Hartford. The House of Representatives, being unable to transact their business, adjourned. A proposal to adjourn the council was under consideration. When the opinion of Colonel Davenport was asked, he answered: "I am against an adjournment. The day of judgment is approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for adjournment; if it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish, therefore, that candles may be brought." In Whittier's "Tent on the Beach" is given a beautiful poetical version of this anecdote. It is suggested by several authorities that the cause of the dark day in 1780 should be attributed simply to the presence of ordinary clouds of very unusual volume and density. These instances are, of course, grouped with phenomena of which not a great deal is known, and can in no way be classed with those occurrences occasioned by the smoke from extensive forest fires, volcanic eruptions, or fogs.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM OR MESMERISM.

OAKLAND, ILL.

Who discovered mesmerism, or animal magnetism? Please tell us something about it. J. W. POLLARD.

Answer.—Animal magnetism, or mesmerism, was first brought into notice in Germany by Frederick Anton Mesmer, a German physician, who was born at or near Meersburg, Baden, on the lake of Constance, in 1733 or 1734. When Mesmer took his degree in 1776 he presented a thesis on "the influence of the planets on the human body," and he regarded the new force which he said could be exerted by one living organism upon another as a means of alleviating or curing disease. In 1778 he left Vienna and went to Paris, where he practiced, amid the dislike of the medical profession, but with the favor of the people. He wrote several volumes on the subject, and it took its name from its first promoter. His discovery was fostered by Dr. D'Elson, physician to the King's brother,

and in 1784 the French Government ordered the medical faculty of Paris to investigate Mesmer's theory. A commission was appointed, consisting of Benjamin Franklin, then Minister to France, Lavoisier, Bory, Bailly, Majault, Sallin, D'Arcet, Guillotin, and Le Roy, who reported that "the violent effects which are observed in the public practice of magnetism are due to the manipulations, to the excitement of the imagination, and to that sort of mechanical imitation which leads us to repeat anything which produces an impression upon the senses." Mesmer left Paris in 1785, where his popularity rapidly diminished, and spent the rest of his life in retirement in Switzerland. He retired with considerable wealth, acquired from his former magnetic practice. It was said that at one time his income while in Paris was 100,000 francs a year.

MARSHAL BAZAINE.

LINDEN, Marengo Co., Ala.

I would like as full a history of the French Marshal Bazaine as space will allow. Why was he court-martialed? How many troops he surrendered at Metz? Did he fight any during the siege of Metz? How he escaped, and is his present whereabouts known?

JAMES M. QUINNEY.

Answer.—The French Marshal, Francois Achille Bazaine, is a native of Versailles, where he was born Feb. 13, 1811. Although the son of a prominent and wealthy officer, he enlisted as a private in 1831, and rose to the rank of lieutenant in Algeria in 1835; captain after two years' service with the foreign legion against the Carlists in Spain; after nine years in Morocco and Algeria, lieutenant-colonel in 1848; colonel of the foreign legion in 1850; and general of brigade in the Crimean war, and acted, after its capture, as commander of Sebastopol, and was general of division in 1855, and participated in the capture of Kinburn. In the Italian campaign, he was wounded while commanding a division in the attack on Melegnano (Marignano), and he was prominent in the battle of Solferino. In the Mexican campaign, he commanded the First Division of the French army in 1862, and after defeating Comonfort and compelling the surrender of Puebla, May 18, 1863, he succeeded Forey as Commander-in-chief. In the year 1864 he was raised to the rank of Marshal. In February, 1865, he captured the town of Oajaca, together with a Mexican army of 7,000 men under Diaz. Not long thereafter he married a rich Mexican lady, whose family sided with Juarez, and it was believed that, though apparently friendly to Maximilian, he plotted with that unfortunate prince's enemies to promote his own ambitious schemes. He finally withdrew, in February, 1867, from the capital, and embarked not long after at Vera Cruz. For leaving Maximilian he was publicly denounced in France, but took his seat in the Senate, and was appointed commander of the Third Army Corps, and in October, 1869, after the death of St. Jean d'Angely, became Commander-in-chief of the Imperial Guard at Paris. When the Franco-Prussian war broke

out, Bazaine expected the command of one of two powerful armies destined to the invasion of Prussia, but found himself in command of only a single corps. He was, however, after the disasters of Woerth and Forbach, placed in command of the Army of the Rhine. Bazaine then fell back upon Metz. The battles of Mars-la-Tours and Gravelotte were fought, and Bazaine retired within the fortifications, "hermetically shut in by Prince Frederick Charles." He made several unsuccessful attempts to break through the investing army, which were renewed after the capitulation of Sedan, but with the same results. He surrendered, Oct. 27, 1870, an army of 160,000 men, Metz, and 1,800 pieces of artillery. Bazaine was arraigned Oct. 10, 1873, before a court, charged with having surrendered Metz without having exhausted all the means of defense; and with having, as head of the army before Metz, signed a capitulation in the open field, the result of which was to cause his troops to lay down their arms, and of not having, before treating verbally and by writing, done everything which he was bound to do by duty and honor. After a trial of two months' duration, he was unanimously pronounced guilty, sentenced to be degraded and shot, with the unanimous recommendation that the sentence should not be carried into execution. His sentence was promptly commuted by President MacMahon to twenty-five years' imprisonment in a fortress, without military degradation. On Aug. 9, 1874, Bazaine, with the aid of his wife, escaped from his fortress prison, Isle St. Marguerite. He has been reported as living in retirement in several places.

GENERAL CHARLES P. STONE.

BENTON, ATASCOSA Co., Texas.
Give a sketch of the life and services of General Stone, and for what offense did Secretary Stanton have him arrested at one time?

VETERAN.

Answer.—Charles P. Stone was a native of Greenfield, Mass., born in 1826, and graduated at West Point in 1845. For a brief space he was Assistant Professor of Ethics at "the Point," and, for gallantry at Molino del Rey, he was breveted first lieutenant, and captain at Chapultepec in September, 1847. In 1851 he was ordered to California, constructing the Benicia arsenal, and performing the duties of Chief of Ordinance of the Division of the Pacific. He became first lieutenant in 1853, but resigned in 1856, engaging for a year in banking at San Francisco, and then being appointed chief of a commission by the Mexican Government to survey and explore its lands in Lower California and Sonora. In 1860, he returned East, and Jan. 1, 1861, he was appointed to organize and drill the District of Columbia militia for the defense of the capital. On May 14, he was appointed Colonel of the Fourteenth United States Infantry, and Brigadier General of volunteers May 17, and served under General Patterson during his operations in the Shenandoah in July. One of those writing of him says: "The troops engaged in the battle of Ball's Bluff, Oct. 21, be-

longed to his division, and acted under his orders; and, reports unfavorable to his loyalty having been circulated, he was arrested Feb. 9, 1862, and confined in Fort Lafayette. In August he was released and ordered to Washington." Another writer says: "He was placed in confinement in Fort Lafayette, New York harbor, and held until Aug. 9, when released, not only without charges being preferred against him, but without explanation of the cause of his arrest." In May, 1863, he was ordered to report for duty to General Banks, in Louisiana, and was engaged in the siege and capture of Port Hudson. General Banks not long after selected him as chief of staff, and that position he held until April, 1864, and participated at Bayou Teche, Sabine Cross-roads, and Pleasant Hill. He also commanded a brigade of the Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac, before Petersburg, Aug. 21, 1864, to his resignation in September of that year. In 1870, General Stone entered the service of the Khedive of Egypt.

LIMITS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

KULLY CHAHAI, Ind. Ter.
The sun being the center of the solar system, is the circumference of the earth's circle around the sun the limit of our solar system?

J. C. HOWELL.

Answer.—From a glance given the subjoined table, the inquirer will observe the distances from the center of the solar system of the major planets:

Planets.	Mean distance from sun, miles.
Mercury.....	35,560,000
Venus.....	66,449,000
Earth.....	91,875,000
Mars.....	139,988,000
Jupiter.....	478,008,000
Saturn.....	876,376,000
Uranus.....	1,762,375,000
Neptune.....	2,760,103,000

These are the figures of Professor Kirkwood, who also adds that, "as to the place occupied by the sun and its attendant orbs among the fixed stars, it is sufficient to remark that Alpha Centauri, presumably the nearest of those bodies, is 7,000 times more remote than Neptune." Verily, in the Universe of God, "end there is none."

THE DEATH OF WASHINGTON.

We have received the following interesting correspondence with reference to the cause of the death of Washington, about which inquiry was recently made:

ATHENS, Ala.

Having seen in the "Curiosity Shop" a question in regard to whether Washington's death was caused by too much bleeding, I inclose a copy of the report of his physicians, in my possession, which may be of interest to your readers.

JAMES McELHINEY.

— "ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 21, 1799.

"Particular account of the death of George Washington.

"Some time in the night of Friday, the 10th inst., having been exposed to a rain on the preceding day, General Washington was attacked with an inflammatory affection of the upper part of the wind-pipe, called, in technical language, *cynanche trachealis*. The disease commenced with a violent ague, accompanied with some pain in the upper and fore part of the throat, and a sense of stricture in the same part, a cough, and a difficult, rather than a painful deglutition, which were soon succeeded by fever and a quick and laborious respiration. The necessity of blood-letting suggesting itself to the General, he procured a bleeder in the neighborhood who took from his arm in the night

twelve or fourteen ounces of blood. He could not by any means be prevailed on by the family to send for the attending physician till the following morning, who arrived at Mt. Vernon about 11 o'clock on Saturday. Discovering the case to be highly alarming, and foreseeing the fatal tendency of the disease, two consulting physicians were immediately sent for, who arrived, one at 3:30 and the other at 4, in the afternoon. In the meantime were employed two pretty copious bleedings, a blister was applied to the part affected, two moderate doses of calomel were given, and an injection was administered, which operated on the lower intestines, but all without any perceptible advantage, the respiration becoming still more difficult and distressing. Upon the arrival of the first consulting physician it was agreed, as there were no signs of accumulation in the bronchial vessels of the lungs, to try the result of another bleeding, when about thirty-two ounces of blood were taken, without the smallest alleviation of the disease. Vapors of vinegar and water were frequently inhaled, ten grains of calomel were given, succeeded by repeated doses of emetic tartar, amounting in all to five or six grains, with no other effect than a copious discharge from the bowels. The powers of life seemed now manifestly yielding to the force of the disorder; blisters were applied to the extremities, with a cataplasm of bran and vinegar to the throat. Speaking, which was painful from the beginning, now became almost impracticable; respiration grew more and more contracted and imperfect, till 11:30 Saturday night, retaining the full possession of his intellect, when he expired without a struggle.

JAMES CRAICK, Attending Physician.
"ELISHA C. DICK, Consulting Physician."

MR. CONKLING AND MONOPOLIES.

CLARENCE, Mo.

Please answer and settle a dispute: Did Roscoe Conkling ever deliver any addresses or make any speeches for or against monopolies while in Congress?

MRS. G. D. LOVEJOY.

Answer.—Mr. Conkling never spoke in favor of monopolies, but has consistently opposed them. It was by his efforts that the bill to repeal the franking privilege was passed. He worked and voted against the "salary grab," and his speech on the attempt to so amend the homestead law as to prevent soldiers from taking land wanted by railroads, defeated that attempt. So his opposition to the greed of the Union Pacific Railway and his triumph in the Senate refute the talk about his not being opposed to the monopolists.

GOLD, SILVER, AND PAPER IN CIRCULATION.

ABINGDON, Knox County, Ill.

Please give the exact number of greenback dollars in the United States; also the total number of gold and silver.

F. F. CARSON.

Answer.—The last report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that on Nov. 1, 1880, the following was the amount of paper money in the United States:

Amount of National Bank notes.....\$342,063,451
Amount of legal-tender notes..... 346,681,016

Total.....\$688,744,467
The Director of the Mint estimated that on Nov. 1, 1880, the following were the amounts of gold and silver currency in the United States:
Gold.....\$44,012,030
Silver..... 158,271,327

Total.....\$602,283,357

THE TROPICS.

BEVER, Mo.

Why are the "Tropic of Cancer" and the "Tropic of Capricorn" so called?

MOLLIE MELLVILLE.

Answer.—Cancer is the Latin for crab. In astronomy it is the fourth sign of the Zodiac; also, a constellation of stars formerly occupying the sign Cancer. The Tropic of Cancer is the northern boundary of the Torrid Zone, where the sun is vertical at noon at the summer sol-

stice, or the sun enters the sign about June 21. Capricorn is the tenth sign of the Zodiac, and the sun enters it on Dec. 21, when our winter solstice takes place. The Tropic of Capricorn is the southern of the two small circles which pass through the solstitial points at a distance of 23 deg. 28 min. 30 sec. from the equator, and is so called because it is apparently described when the sun seems to enter the sign Capricorn.

GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS.

FLORIDA, Henry Co., Ill.

What are the names of the Governors of the State of Illinois from its organization as a State to the present time?

D. E. BRUBAKER.

Answer.—This State has, since its admission into the Union, had a large share of Governors, as will be seen by the following list:

Shadrach Bond.....1818-22 Wm. H. Bissell.....1857-60
Edward Coles.....1822-26 John Wood.....1860-61
Ninian Edwards.....1826-30 Richard Yates.....1861-65
John Reynolds.....1830-34 Rich'd J. Oglesby.....1865-69
Joseph Duncan.....1834-38 John M. Palmer.....1869-73
Thomas Carlin.....1838-42 Rich'd J. Oglesby.....1873-78
Thomas Ford.....1842-46 John L. Beveridge.....1873-77
Aug. C. French.....1846-53 Shelby M. Culom.....1877-
Joel A. Matteson.....1853-57

John Wood was acting Governor after the death of Governor Bissell.

THE FIRST VIOLIN.

OAKLAND, Ill.

When and by whom was the first violin invented?

J. W. POLLARD.

Answer.—The earliest maker of the modern violin whose instruments are well authenticated is Gaspard di Salo, who worked between about 1560 and 1612. Gaspard Duiffoprugcar is credited with making many instruments before him, but some of the highest authorities hold that it is, to say the least, doubtful whether these instruments are authentic, and whether Duiffoprugcar made anything else than viols and lutes.

THE FIRST AND THE LAST SHOT.

BENTON, Atascosa Co., Texas.—Inclosed please find a small item clipped from the Washington *World and Soldier*. I wrote the item, and can vouch for the truth of it. JAMES L. WALLAR.

Company A, Fortieth Illinois Infantry.

As there are frequent inquiries about leading characters in the "late unpleasantness," I thought I would report the Alpha and Omega of the rebellion. The San Antonio (Texas) *Express*, of May 5, says: "The officer who sent the order to open fire on Fort Sumter was Colonel H. P. Brewster, Chief of Staff for Colonel Albert Sidney Johnston, until that officer's death at Pittsburg Landing. Colonel Brewster is a hale and hearty old Texas veteran, residing in San Antonio. He said he had forgotten the circumstances of the order until he read it in the first volume of the 'Records of the Rebellion,' just published."

Of course an incident of as small moment as the order for firing the first gun in such a rebellion as this one turned out to be would soon escape the memory of the officer issuing it. He is the Alpha. The Omega is to be found in the person of Captain W. J. Locke, the officer who captured the last fort, Ringold, Texas, and received the last surrender of the war. He is also

bale and hearty, is an Illinoisian by birth, served in the Texas Legislature after the war, and is now to be found on his farm four miles north of San Antonio, on Almas Creek, engaged in farming and stock-raising.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S DAUGHTERS.

CHESTER, Neb.
Who are the daughters of Queen Victoria, and who are the husbands of those who are married?

FANNIE.

Answer—The eldest daughter of Queen Victoria is Princess Victoria, born Nov. 21, 1840, and married Jan. 25, 1858, to Prince Frederick Wilhelm, eldest son of Wilhelm I., of Germany. The following are the other daughters: Princess Helena, born May 25, 1846, married July 5, 1866, to Prince Christian, of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg; Princess Louisa, born March 18, 1848, married March 21, 1871, to John Douglas Sutherland, Marquis of Lorne, and Princess Beatrice, born April 14, 1857.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR A WIDOWER.

NEW ALBIN, Iowa.
Is President Arthur a married man?

NELL.

Answer—President Arthur is a widower. His wife was the daughter of the well-known naval officer, Herndon, who went down with the steamer Central America in 1857, on her way from Havana to New York. Mrs. Arthur died only about two years ago.

SHERIDAN AND SHERMAN.

CHICAGO.
What is the place of birth of General Phil Sheridan and General W. T. Sherman?

CONSTANT READER.

Answer—Philip Henry Sheridan was born at Somerset, Perry County, Ohio, March 6, 1831, and William Tecumseh Sherman was born at Lancaster, Ohio, Feb. 8, 1820.

SLAVERY REPRESENTATION.

KEESWICK, Iowa.
Was there ever a time in the history of the United States when slaveholders were allowed to cast a vote for a certain number of slaves?

O. C. HARDING.

Answer—The convention which met in Philadelphia in 1787, and which gave the country the Constitution, had to deal with the question of the antagonism between freedom and slavery, between the States which had accepted and were accepting the former and the States which clung with such persistent determination to the latter. As the late Vice President Wilson said: "The theory of human equality had been enunciated by the first Continental Congress, and proclaimed in the deathless words of the Declaration of Independence." "But there came into this convention of illustrious men, assembled to frame a constitution for a Christian nation, a powerful minority believing in and representing chattel slavery. In that crisis of the country—when its very existence was in peril, and the only alternative seemed to be a constitution or anarchy—that minority made it a condition precedent to their assent that the convention should comply with the exactions of the slave-holding interest. The representatives of that interest—able, arbitrary, and adroit—taking advantage of the ne-

cessities of the country, wrung from the convention fatal concessions, which then and thereafter trammelled the hand of Liberty and armed the hand of Slavery." With this picture of the condition of the new land of the West, we can better appreciate the action which was taken by the members of the convention. There was a mighty struggle in the convention in reference to the basis of representation in Congress, and the question of slavery entered largely into it. There were three propositions before the convention—to count the slaves according to their numbers, to count them in the ratio of three-fifths, and to have a periodical census taken: all of these were lost. Then there was a proposition to base all future apportionments upon the compound ratio of wealth and numbers. When persuasion failed, General Davie, of North Carolina, said that he saw it was "meant by some gentlemen to deprive the Southern States of any representation of their blacks. I am sure that North Carolina will never confederate on any terms that do not rate them at least as three-fifths. If the Eastern States mean to exclude them altogether then the business is at an end." This menace had the desired effect. Mr. Randolph renewed the proposition to count slaves as three-fifths in the basis of representation. By this vote it was provided that the half a million slaves in the five Southern States, and their increase in coming years, should be counted in the basis of representation in the House, and in the electoral college, in the ratio of three-fifths.

RUSSIAN EXILES IN SIBERIA.

SALEM, Neb.
We often read of criminals being banished for life from Russia to Siberia. Please give some account of what becomes of them, how they are governed, etc.

P. HALL.

Answer—Much that is erroneous prevails as to the character of prisoners sent to Siberia from Russia, as well as in regard to their condition and treatment in that land of bondage. Every year the prisoners sentenced to Siberia are collected at Moscow, or some other central point, and thence sent forward to their destination in parties of various sizes. They go to the penal territory in the summer months, or from May to October. The vast crowd that assembled last May at Moscow aggregated about 12,000 persons, and yet it was affirmed by careful statisticians that probably not more than 1,000 of these were sentenced to hard labor. There are several facts to be borne in mind in regard to the criminals who are banished to Siberia, the nature of the crimes of which they are convicted, and the character of their punishment. In Russia there is no capital punishment, except for treason or crimes of that nature. The courts sentence criminals to the mines in Siberia, to service as laborers at fortresses, to imprisonment at home, to banishment to the colonies in Siberia, or to lighter punishment in reformatory institutions. The convicts sent to the mines in Siberia are the most hardened per-

sons, such as murderers, etc. The life led by that class in the mines is said to be deplorable beyond anything in any other country. Persons who have been convicted of ordinary penitentiary offenses are sent to the penal colonies, and their families have the privilege of accompanying them. It is stated that many vagrants are sent to these colonies. There the colonists, as the prisoners may be called, are under the supervision of the government, and are given land and allowed the proceeds of their own labor. It is claimed that this system has been attended with excellent results, these colonists becoming prosperous and forming orderly, thriving settlements, and doing much to develop the country and civilize the natives. More than one-half the population of Siberia is composed of banished Russians or the descendants of exiles. A few facts may be of interest in reference to the crimes committed and the number of convictions secured. Of the persons arrested for or accused of crime, about 17 per cent are convicted and sentenced. Of the number of convicted, about 2 per cent are sentenced to hard labor in Siberia, about 4 per cent to exile in the Siberian colonies, about 12 per cent to labor in forts, about 25 per cent to imprisonment, and the remainder to lighter punishments. It should be added that, besides the families of exiles, some go to Siberia as volunteer immigrants.

BRET HARTE.

Give a sketch of the life and works of MORRIS, III.
Z. B.
Bret Harte.

Answer.—Francis Bret Harte is a native of the Empire State, having been born at Albany, Aug. 25, 1839. When very young his father, who was a teacher in a girls' seminary, died, and Harte, when scarcely 15 years of age, went to California. For about three years he lived the uncertain life of the mining camps of the golden West, and taught school for a time, then acted as express messenger, and experienced many of the ups and downs, especially the latter, that fall to the lot of young men who go beyond the mountains. His restless, pushing spirit led him to San Francisco in 1857, where he worked as a compositor, and soon began to contribute sketches of California life to the columns of the paper on which he was employed. After a time he rose to an editorial position, and subsequently became the editor of a literary weekly. In the year 1864 he was appointed Secretary of the United States branch mint at San Francisco, which he held until 1870. During that time he contributed to the journals of that city a number of his short poems, which were widely read, and gave their author an acknowledged place in American literature. Harte became editor of the *Overland Monthly* in 1868, and to one of the first numbers of that periodical he contributed "The Luck of Roaring Camp." Following this were many sketches of mining-camp life, and in September,

1870, the humorous poem popularly known as "The Heathen Chinee," which had a great success. He resigned the office of editor of the *Overland* in 1871 and came East, and settled for a time at New York. He is now United States Consul at Glasgow, Scotland. His works have been collected and published in various forms. His longest novel is "Gabriel Conroy," and his best known is probably "The Luck of Roaring Camp." For a number of years he has been a contributor to the leading periodicals of America.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

FREMONT, Ohio.

When was the Hudson Bay Company organized, and by whom? What is the object of the company, and other facts in regard to it?

F. S. HAFFORD.

Answer.—Hudson's Bay Company is a joint stock association, formed for the purpose of importing into Great Britain the furs and skins which it obtains from the British North American Indians. In 1670 Charles II. granted a charter to Prince Rupert and seventeen other noblemen and gentlemen, incorporating them as the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay." This charter secured to them "the sole trade and commerce of those seas, straits, bays, rivers, lakes, creeks, and sounds, in whatsoever latitude they shall be, that lie within the straits commonly called Hudson's Straits, together with all the lands and territories upon the countries, coasts, and confines of the seas, etc., aforesaid, that are not already actually possessed by or granted to our subjects, or possessed by the subjects of any other Christian prince or state." The company also received the complete lordship, and entire legislative, judicial, and executive power within the limits described, as well as the right to "the whole and entire trade and traffic to and from all havens, bays, creeks, rivers, lakes, and seas into which they should find entrance or passage by water or land out of the territories, limits, or places aforesaid." In 1821 Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Fur Company of Montreal amalgamated, obtaining a license to hold for twenty-one years the monopoly of trade in the vast regions lying to the west and northwest of the first-named company's grant. In 1838 Hudson's Bay Company acquired the sole rights for itself, and obtained a new license for twenty-one years. When this expired it was not renewed, and since 1859 the district has been open to all. The licenses to trade did not affect the original possessions of the company, which it retained till 1869, when they were transferred to the British Government for £300,000, and in 1870 they were incorporated with the Dominion of Canada. The company now trades entirely as a private corporation, and still retains one-twentieth of the entire grant, together with valuable tracts of land around the various forts. These trading forts are dotted over the immense region, except Canada proper and Alaska, which is bounded east by the Atlantic and west by the

Pacific Ocean, and north by the Arctic Ocean and south by the United States. From these forts the furs are transported by boat or canoe to York Fort, on Hudson's Bay, and thence are shipped to England to be sold at auction.

JOHN HANCOCK—GENERAL GREENE.

KIRKSVILLE, Mo.

1. When did John Hancock, of revolutionary fame, resign the Presidency of the Continental Congress, and what is his subsequent history? 2. What became of General Greene after the Revolution. K. R. N.

Answer.—1. John Hancock resigned in the year 1777, and, writing of this event, Bancroft, the historian, says: "In his Presidency, Hancock had shown proclivities to the South. When, on his resignation in October, a motion was made to give him the thanks of Congress for his impartiality in office, the three northernmost States of New England voted in the negative, while the South was unanimous in his favor." Hancock returned to Massachusetts, where he was a member of the convention for framing a constitution for the State, and under it was, in 1780, chosen first Governor, to which office, with an interval of two years, he was annually re-elected till his death, which occurred Oct. 8, 1793. 2. General Nathanael Greene died near Savannah, Ga., June 19, 1786. The Carolinas and Georgia made him valuable grants of property. After passing a year in Rhode Island, he removed to Mulberry Grove, on the Savannah River, where he died of sunstroke. He passed away before the foundations of the republic were fully laid, and failed to see more than the outlines of the government he had fought to establish. One of those who have written upon General Greene adds the remark which tells its own story: "A monument was voted by Congress, but never erected, and all traces of his burial place have been lost. He left two sons and three daughters, and an estate seriously embarrassed by his efforts in 1783 to feed and clothe his army."

OUR ARMY AND NAVY.

NEW HAVEN, Ohio.

1. Who commands the Pacific forces of the United States army, the Atlantic forces, and West Point? 2. How large is our army? 3. What is the size of our navy, and of what is it composed? TYRO.

Answer.—1. Major General Irvin McDowell commands the military division of the Pacific, Major General Winfield S. Hancock commands the division of the Atlantic, and Brigadier General Oliver O. Howard commands at West Point. 2. The maximum military force under existing laws is 2,153 commissioned officers and 25,000 men. The report of the General of the Army, which is at hand, shows that there are about 24,000 enlisted men in the service. 3. The last annual report of the Secretary of the Navy, December, 1880, showed the following facts: There were in the service that year 65 steam vessels, all screw propellers except 4, besides 22 wooden sailing vessels, 24 iron-clad vessels, 2 torpedo boats, and 25 tugs; total, 138, of which about 70 were in efficient service; and the number of guns was 1,125. There were, July, 1880,

in the service, provided for by the navy appropriation act for the fiscal year 1881, 7,500 enlisted men and boys. The marine corps consisted of 78 officers and 1,500 enlisted men.

COLONEL GEORGE E. WARING.

BAYLES, Pike Co., Ill.

Will the "Curiosity Shop" give a short sketch of Colonel George E. Waring, one of the Sanitary Commissioners?

T. CONWAY.

Answer.—George E. Waring was born at Middletown, Conn., July 21, 1833, was Agricultural Engineer of the Central Park, New York, and in the year 1861 entered the volunteer service of the United States. He became Colonel of the Fourth Missouri Cavalry. While in command of that regiment Colonel Waring attacked the rebel Marmaduke, in February, 1863, at Batesville, Ark., and drove his forces over the river, defeating the enemy and taking Colonel Adams prisoner, with others. Colonel Waring also participated in the operations in Mississippi the year following, and was at the fight at Guntown. He has published several works on drainage, agriculture, etc., and has contributed to periodical literature. We have a history of the Sanitary Commission, by the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Bellows, of New York, President of the commission, and in it is a list of the members, but the name of Colonel Waring does not anywhere appear as a member of the commission.

THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

BEVIER, Mo.

Will Our Curiosity Shop tell us about the Golden Fleece?

MRS. W. C. COLLETT.

Answer.—Several versions come down to us of the tradition. The one which is most generally accepted represents Jason as the son Æson and nephew of Pelias, King of Iolcos in Thessaly. Pelias had dethroned Æson, and sought the life of Jason, but the child was saved. His parents gave out that he was dead, but conveyed him by night to the cave of the centaur Chiron, to whose care they committed him. Jason, at the age of 20, went to claim the crown which Pelias had usurped. That ruler agreed to give up the kingdom provided Jason brought him the golden fleece from Colchis. One of the myths of the fleece is that Ino, second wife of Athamas, King of Orchomenus in Boeotia, wished to destroy Phrixus, son of Athamas, but he and Helle were saved by their mother, Nephele, who gave them a golden-fleeced ram she had obtained from Mercury, which carried them through the air over sea and land. Helle fell into the sea, and it was named Hellespontus. Phrixus went on to Colchis, where he was received kindly and sacrificed the ram to Jupiter Phryxus, and gave the golden fleece to Ætes, who nailed it to an oak in the grove of Mars. It was this fleece that Jason and his companions went in search of. The myths related that the fleece was watched over by a sleepless dragon. The leading heroes of Greece accompanied Jason in the Argo, named from Argos, the son of Phrixus, and the oarsmen kept time to the harmony of Orpheus' voice and lyre. They visited Lemnos, and remained there

a time; then they came to Samothrace, and proceeded to several places, lengthening their journey and multiplying their adventures. When they reached Colchis at last Ætes promised the fleece to Jason provided the latter would yoke to the plow two fire-breathing bulls, and sow the dragon's teeth left by Cadmus in Thebes. Medea, who was the daughter of Ætes, and a powerful enchantress, promised to aid Jason if he would wed her, and the hero accomplished these labors. Ætes again plotted against Jason, who, however, by the aid of Medea, seized the fleece, and carrying it on board of his ship, set sail, accompanied by the enchantress and her brother Absyrtus. They were pursued by Ætes, when Medea killed her brother, and threw his body into the sea, piece by piece, thus delaying the King who stopped to gather up the remains, leaving the Argonauts to escape. After many months of toil and numerous trials they at last reached Iolcos, and the Argo was consecrated by Jason on the Isthmus of Corinth to Neptune.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Who founded the Smithsonian Institution? Please give some particulars in regard to it. WHATCHEER, Iowa.
READER.

Answer.—The Smithsonian Institution was organized by act of Congress in August, 1846, to carry into effect the provisions of the will of James Smithson. That celebrated English physicist bequeathed to his nephew £120,000, the whole of his property, which, in the event of the death of the latter without heirs, was to go to the Government of the United States to found at Washington an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge, and which was to be named the Smithsonian Institution. The condition on which the bequest was to take effect in favor of the United States occurred in 1835 by the death of the nephew without issue, and the Hon. Richard Rush was sent to London to prosecute the claim. That gentleman deposited, Sept. 1, 1838, in the United States Mint, the proceeds in English sovereigns, which amounted to \$515,169. With this as a beginning, the establishing of the institution was effected by act of Congress after eight years.

LARGEST CITIES IN THE WORLD.

According to the latest statistics, what is the population of the ten largest cities in the world? WAUCONDA, Ill.
SEEKER.

Answer.—We have collated from Rand, McNally & Co.'s new "Atlas of the World" the following figures in regard to the population of some of the larger cities:

London.....	4,000,000	Berlin.....	1,111,630
Paris.....	1,988,806	King-te-ching	1,000,000
Soo-choo.....	1,500,000	Philadelphia..	846,984
Canton.....	1,300,000	Chang-chow..	800,000
Peking.....	1,300,000	Wo chang....	800,000
New York.....	1,206,590		

HERO AND LEANDER.

Give briefly the old Greek legend of "Hero and Leander." DECATUR, Ill.
A SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The story runs that Hero was a beautiful priestess of Venus at Sestus, on the

Hellespont, opposite Abydos, from which it is distant about a mile. The maiden became attached to Leander, who was a native of Abydos. The youth, it is said, every night escaped from the vigilance of his family, and swam across the Hellespont, while Hero directed his course by holding a burning torch on the top of a high tower. After many successful voyages over the strait, Leander was drowned one stormy night as he attempted his usual course, and Hero, in despair, threw herself down from her tower into the sea.

KISSING THE BRIDE.

Is it the general custom for a justice of a peace or minister, when he marries a couple, to kiss the bride, and is it a sign of good breeding to kiss the bride if she strenuously objects? FORT WAYNE, Ind.
WM. T. PRATT.

Answer.—A high authority gives the following as that which is most approved in the best New York society: "The bridal veil may be thrown back from the face of the bride at the altar by the groom if he pleases; but it is not now considered quite reverent or respectful for him to kiss her thus publicly, and certainly not for the officiating clergyman. A delicate woman always rebels against the now disused formality of kissing in the church, and it is pleasant to announce this habit as one of the obsolete customs of public marriages."

TURKS—HINDOOS AND SEPOYS.

1. Are the Turks Mongolians? 2. What is the difference in the application of the terms Sepoy and Hindoo? FLORENCE, Kan.
F. ASH.

Answer.—1. Yes. 2. The Sepoys are the native soldiers of the British army in India. The derivation of the word is doubtful. It probably comes from a Persian word meaning soldier. The Sepoys consist of Mohammedans, Rajpoots, Brahmans, and men of other castes, besides Sikhs, Ghooras, and hillmen of various tribes. The Hindoos are generally understood to be those who inhabit the peninsula of Hindoostan. There need be no difficulty, therefore, in retaining in mind the difference suggested.

THE CATACOMBS OF ROME.

Some description of the catacombs of Rome would be interesting; also, some facts about the Christians using them as places of refuge in times of persecution. DURAND, Winnebago Co., Ill.
E. A. RICHE.

Answer.—Many of the catacombs are of great antiquity, probably having been hewn long before the Rome of Romulus and Remus was founded, and so extended, in course of time, that every one of the seven hills on which the city stood was perforated and honey-combed by passages, dark galleries, low corridors, and vaulted halls. What greatly facilitated the work was the light and soft nature of the material to be quarried, and the workmen were thus enabled to shape the shafts and galleries as they pleased. As the city grew in extent and wealth these quarries were enlarged or new ones opened, until the decline of the empire began, and then old edifices were made to supply the materials to build new ones. But little is to be gleaned from the

ancient writers as to the uses to which these subterranean recesses were put when they ceased to be quarried. Horace says of the caverns under the Esquiline Hill, that it "was the common sepulcher of the miserable plebeians." The catacombs were crowded with the Christians during the persecutions under Nero, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian, Severus, Maximinus, and Diocletian, who found there retreats which saved them from the tyranny of the Roman royal pagans. It is held by some modern writers that though the quarries were used to some extent as sepulchers, it is evident that the greater part of the catacombs were originally constructed as places of interment for the dead. Each catacomb forms a net work of passages, or galleries, intersecting each other at right angles, but sometimes diverging from a common center; these galleries, or passages, are usually about eight feet high, and from three to five feet wide. The graves are in tiers on the sides, and when undisturbed are found closed with marble slabs or tiles, on which are often inscriptions or Christian emblems. It has been estimated that the entire length of the catacombs is not less than 580 miles, and that they contain about 6,000,000 bodies. From being the refuge of persecuted Christians, they became about the thirteenth century the hiding places of outlaws and assassins, who were, however, finally driven out of the entrances to their retreats closed. Many interesting and valuable works have been written on the subject, and fathers of the Christian church have spent their lives in investigating these wonderful caverns.

WHO THEN WOULD BE PRESIDENT?

MICHIGAMME, Mich.

In the event of the death of President Arthur, or should he be otherwise incapable of holding the office of President, would Senator David Davis be next in the order of succession; that is, would Senator Davis, now acting Vice President, become President?

J. P. C.

Answer.—It is held by constitutional authorities that the laws of March 1, 1792, embodied in the Revised Statutes, contain a complete answer to the question as to who would be President in the event of the death or disability of General Arthur. Section 146 of the Revised Statutes is as follows: "In case of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both President and Vice President of the United States, the President of the Senate, or, if there is none, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for the time being, shall act as President until the disability is removed or a President elected." Then section 150 adds: "The provisions of this title, relating to the quadrennial election of President and Vice President shall apply with respect to any election to fill vacancies in the offices of President and Vice President, held upon a notification given when both offices become vacant." Again, section 152 sets forth: "The term of four years for which a President and Vice President shall be elected, shall, in all cases, commence on the

fourth day of March next succeeding the day in which the votes of the electors have been given." From these sections it is held by some of the leading expounders of the law that if President Arthur were to die, be removed, resign, or by some disability cease to be President of the United States, then Senator Davis would be acting President, until such time as a new election for President and Vice President would be duly called, held, and declared. The same authorities interpreting the law claim that, if President Arthur were to die or vacate his office, in 1884 for example, then the President of the Senate would be acting President of the United States until the inauguration of the person duly elected and declared elected at the time indicated. On the other hand, if the President were to die in 1882, the election would be called duly and according to law, and the acting President would act as such until the President-elect entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office; and such President-elect would hold his office for the term of four years from March, 1883, as provided for in section 152.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

TONGANOXIE, Kan.

In what year was Sir Walter Raleigh born; what did he do to displease the Queen of England; and in what year was he beheaded?

R. E. M.

Answer.—Sir Walter Raleigh was born at Hayes, Devonshire, in the year 1552. He lost favor on several occasions. In the year 1591 he committed a grave offense against one of the Queen's maids of honor, and although the lady, a daughter of Sir Nicholas Throgmorton, became his wife, and lived happily with him till his death, his conduct was not to be overlooked, so he was imprisoned for two months and banished from the court. Again, after the death of Elizabeth and on the accession of James, he was stripped of his preferments, forbidden the royal presence, and shortly afterwards arrested on the charge of conspiracy to place Lady Arabella Stuart on the throne. He was convicted on the slightest evidence, but was reprieved and sent to the Tower, and his estates given to Carr, afterward Earl of Somerset. During his thirteen years' imprisonment he composed his "History of the World;" for six years his wife was permitted to bear him company. Raleigh was liberated in March, 1615, when Villiers supplanted Somerset in the royal favor, but was not pardoned. He obtained from James a commission as admiral of the fleet, and fitted out fourteen ships for Guiana, reaching that country in November, 1617, with the loss of two of his vessels. The Spanish settlement of St. Thomas was attacked, the Governor killed and the town set fire to; then the invaders retreated in haste to their ships, many disasters followed, and Raleigh returned to Plymouth in June, 1618, entirely broken in reputation and fortune. He was arrested, tried to escape to France, failed, and was committed once more to the Tower. The Spanish Ambassador demanded that he be punished, and James was not unwill-

ing. The judges decided that, being still under sentence of death pronounced in 1608, he could not be tried again, and then it was resolved to execute the former sentence. He was beheaded at Old Palace Yard, Westminster, Oct. 29, 1618.

A STORY OF NAPOLEON'S DAY.

PI-K UNIVERSITY, NASHVILLE, TENN.

It is remarked that the treatment of Toussaint L'Ouverture, while in France, finds only a parallel in the murder of the Duke D'Enghien. Give a short sketch of the Duke. SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The bright young Duke D'Enghien was one of the many victims of the "pretended patriot who impoverished the country," and whose brilliant career is marred by deeds which have not been, cannot be, explained away. The unfortunate prince was of the Conde family, and was born at Chantilly, Aug. 2, 1772. After receiving an excellent education, he served under his grandfather, Prince Louis Joseph, at the breaking out of the revolution in 1789, and he went into exile with him and his father. The grandfather commanded the famous corps of royalist emigrants, and the young Duke served under him, and was alike noted for his bravery and humanity. The corps was disbanded, and the Duke D'Enghien fixed his residence at a chateau near Ettenheim, Baden. It is hinted that probably he selected that place because of his affection for the Princess Charlotte de Rohan, who resided at Ettenheim, and to whom, it is surmised, the Duke was secretly married. Among the charges made against the young Prince was, that he was suspected of complicity in the attempt of Cadoudal upon the life of Napoleon. The latter was determined to strike terror to the hearts of the Royalists, and he therefore determined to capture and kill the Duke D'Enghien. His chateau was surrounded March 15, 1804, by General Ordener with 300 gendarmes. The Duke was arrested in his bed, and conducted from there to Strasburg, and removed to the fortress of Vincennes March 18, which was reached by the prisoner on the evening of March 20. A few hours later a court-martial assembled in the fortress, a trial which was nothing short of a mockery was held, and, without the examination of witnesses or written testimony, the unfortunate young man was found guilty, and at once taken out to be shot. His captors refused him even the services of a confessor. Between 4 and 5 o'clock on the morning of March 21 the sentence of the court was carried out; the Duke was shot by torchlight, and his body, dressed as it was, thrown into a grave dug for it the day before the trial. By such deeds did the Consul pave the path that led to a crown and to St. Helena.

EMMA ABBOTT.

WAVERLY, IOWA

Inform a farmer's wife of the history of Emma Abbott, the singer; her age, parentage, and life before appearing on the stage? K. W. S.

Answer.—The well-known and popular singer is a native of the Garden City, having been born at Chicago, Dec. 9, 1849. At a very early age her musical gifts became manifest and pro-

nounced, and when 9 years old, Miss Clara Louise Kellogg was attracted by her talents, at Toledo, Ohio, and sent her to New York for musical instruction. Subsequently Miss Abbott was engaged as soprano of the Rev. Dr. E. H. Chaplin's church, and to complete her education she went to Europe in 1872, the expenses therefor being assumed by members of that congregation. For about four years she studied at Milan and at Paris, and won the friendship and praise of some of the finest musical critics in the old world. She made her debut, May 2, 1875, as a dramatic singer at the Covent Garden Theater of London, in Donizetti's popular opera, "The Daughter of the Regiment." In December, 1876, she returned to New York, where she appeared first in Chickering Hall, Feb. 7, 1877. Miss Abbott was married, Feb. 26, 1874, at London, to Mr. E. J. Wetherell, a native of Massachusetts.

INCIDENTS OF THE PTOLEMIES' TIMES.

RIVERTON, IOWA.

Anderson's "Ancient History" says that Seleucus, King of Greece and Macedonia, was assassinated by Ptolemy Ceraunus, son of Ptolemy, of Egypt (280 B.C.), and that the same year the country was invaded by the Gauls, and Ptolemy fell in a battle which he fought to repel them. The question is, did Ptolemy Ceraunus, or Ptolemy, his father, rule over Greece and Macedonia after the death of Seleucus, and which was killed by the Gauls? A. W.

Answer.—The mazes in the history of these Ptolemies are very intricate, and it requires care to follow them through the troublous times in which they lived. Ptolemy Soter, King of Egypt, died in the year 283, before Christ. His son, Ptolemy Ceraunus (or Keraunus, as it is sometimes written), murdered Seleucus (or Seleukus, as some write it), in the year 280. Ptolemy Ceraunus, after this foul deed, proclaimed himself King of Thrace, and, entering Macedonia with an army, caused himself to be recognized also as ruler by the Macedonians. The ambitious King, after several sanguinary acts, found himself, as he believed, firmly entrenched in his kingdom, when suddenly and unexpectedly a formidable enemy appeared in the Gauls. Ptolemy Ceraunus seems to have despised the strength of the invading barbarians who had made new and terrible inroads into various provinces in the north of Hellas. In a battle fought in November, 280, Ceraunus's forces were nearly annihilated, and Ptolemy himself was slain.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE, LONDON.

ONEIDA, N. Y.

Who built the Royal Exchange of London? GEORGE W. BRAINARD.

Answer.—In early times in a number of the cities of Continental Europe, there were regular commercial gathering places. Up to about the latter part of the sixteenth century the merchants of London were accustomed to meet in Lombard street without shelter. The idea of erecting a building in London which would resemble the covered walks used for exchanges abroad came from Sir Richard Gresham, who had seen the conveniences of the mercantile world in several

cities of the continent. The project of Sir Richard was carried in effect by his son, Sir Thomas Gresham, who offered to erect a building if the citizens would provide the ground. In the year 1566 the site north of Cornhill, in London, was purchased for about £3,600. Queen Elizabeth, Jan. 23, 1570, caused it to be proclaimed the "Royal Exchange." The great fire of 1666 destroyed this structure, and the new exchange was commenced about the latter part of 1667, and opened for business Sept. 28, 1669. This building was burned Jan. 10, 1838. The cornerstone of the present exchange was laid in 1842, and the building opened by Queen Victoria Oct. 28, 1844.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S ANCESTRY.

GOOSE LAKE, Iowa.

Were General Garfield's parents of English or German descent?

M. HICKS.

Answer—This is what Coffin, in his life of the late President, says of General Garfield's ancestry: "Just 201 years before the birth of this boy (James A. Garfield) in Ohio Edward Garfield, of England, holding Liberty, Justice, and Right as the dearest things on earth, bade farewell to his home, became one of the great exodus with John Winthrop, John Endicott, Francis Higginson, Isaac Johnson, and the great multitude of Puritans who crossed the Atlantic to escape the tyranny of Charles I. and Archbishop Laud. Edward Garfield's ancestors were Anglo-Saxons." The same authority remarks that tradition has it that Edward Garfield was unmarried, but that he found a German girl on board the vessel that brought him to America, and that the two were married not long after their arrival. It is only tradition, and hardly has the bare ground of probability. The ancestors of the venerable mother of the late President were Huguenots, who fled from France to escape the persecutions of the tyrant kings and their tyrant mistresses.

THE LUCKY HORSE-SHOE.

MAYWOOD, Ill.

What is the proper way to hang up a horse-shoe, with the opening up or down? And what is the origin of the saying that it will bring good luck?

A READER.

Answer—The horse-shoe is placed so that the points are downward. The English antiquary, John Aubrey, who wrote about the middle of the seventeenth century, says that in his time most of the houses in the West End of London were protected against witches and evil spirits by having horse-shoes fastened to them in various ways. It was the belief that then no witch or evil genius could cross the threshold which was protected by the shoe. The fact is that the superstition has been traced about so far back, and then we find it lost in the obscurity of the ages. The custom of nailing horse-shoes for luck to all kinds of sailing craft is still in vogue, and is religiously maintained to be a wise and lucky measure. The superstition goes further, by making it fortunate for any one to find a horse-shoe, and the good luck is increased with

the number of nails that are attached to the shoe when it is picked up.

QUININE.

ALTA, Iowa.

Where does quinine come from, and what is it made of?

BELLA FLOYDD.

Answer—1. Quinine is the most important medicinal ingredient of cinchona, or Peruvian bark. It was discovered, says Dr. Edward Curtis, in yellow, or calisaya bark in 1820, by Pelletier and Caventon, and exists in all the official barks, but is most abundant in calisaya. To obtain it, it is first extracted from the bark as a sulphate by means of quite a complex process. By treating this salt with the solution of alkali, the quinine is precipitated, and is then washed, dried, dissolved in alcohol, and reobtained by slow evaporation. As usually prepared, it is amorphous, but with care it can be obtained in silky crystals. Quinine is an alkaloid, with strong basic properties, and forms with acid crystallizable salts.

CHARLES DICKENS.

SOUTH BEND, Ind.

Will "Our Curiosity Shop" state when and where Charles Dickens was born and where he died, and if any of his family are still living?

J. H. SANDERSON.

Answer—The great English novelist of the people was born at Landport, a suburb of Portsmouth, Feb. 7, 1812, and died at Gadshill, near Rochester, June 9, 1870. Dickens left a family of five sons and two daughters, his eldest son, Charles Dickens, being a man of good natural ability and of some literary attainments. Dickens was buried privately in the poet's corner of Westminster Abbey.

WHO NOMINATED SENATOR BLAINE.

FARRAGUT, Iowa.

Who nominated James G. Blaine for President at the Chicago convention in June, 1860?

C. F. C.

Answer—The Hon. J. F. Joy, of Michigan, made the speech Saturday, June 6, 1860, nominating Senator James G. Blaine.

THE DEATH OF GENERAL PHIL KEARNY.

SIOUX FALLS, D. T.

Relate the circumstances attending the death of General Phil Kearny.

J. W. MORRIS.

Answer—This gallant, generous, high-strung soldier fell near Chantilly, in Virginia, Sept. 1, 1862. There had been skirmishing in the afternoon. General Reno had the remains of two divisions which were indifferently supplied with ammunition, and these forces found themselves confronted by Jackson's superior numbers. Before the repeated and combined attacks of the rebel forces, the small left, or Second Division, of Reno, under General Isaac J. Stevens, gave way, and Stevens was shot by a bullet through the head. Then that command fell back in some disorder, and as the flank of Reno's other division was uncovered it also fell back. General Kearny, with his division of Heintzelman's Corps, then advanced and renewed the action, in the midst of a thunderstorm, which was so furious that ammunition could with great difficulty be kept serviceable. Night was closing in on the conflict, and, after pushing his troops

into the breach which Stevens' defeat had opened between Reno and Hooker, he advanced to the right in search of a position whence his forces could effect a junction with the latter. He advanced too far, however, and was almost within the rebel lines, and fell mortally wounded. In regard to Kearny, no less a military critic than the Comte de Paris says: "Thus ended that noble and brilliant career, which had commenced fifteen years before with the intrepid charge of the Captain of dragoons against the gates of Mexico. Kearny did not, perhaps, possess all the qualities of General-in-chief—at least, he never had the opportunity of displaying them; but he was an admirable lieutenant. Vigilant, untiring, always ready to take the lead, he could not bear inaction. Battle was his element. When balls began to whistle his eagle countenance and clear eyes assumed a resolute expression which inspired confidence in those around him. He was naturally fault-finding and caustic, but his high-toned mind and generosity of heart made compensation for the defects of his character. Frequently quarreling with his chiefs, he knew how to make himself beloved by his inferiors, and was always true to his personal friends. Philip Kearny stands in the first rank among the illustrious victims of this fratricidal war by the side of McPherson, Sedgwick, Bayard, Reno, Richardson, and their gallant adversaries A. S. Johnston, Jackson, Stuart, and A. P. Hill."

GUNPOWDER.

LETTIS, Iowa.

How and of what is gunpowder made?

NORY HENDRIX.

Answer.—Gunpowder is a compound of niter, or saltpeter, charcoal, and sulphur. It is somewhat difficult to give such a description of the necessary operations in making gunpowder as will be clear to the general reader. The following is an outline of the process: The ingredients are refined and pulverized. Then each particle of ingredient is brought into close contact with the others; the pulverized materials are mixed in a rolling barrel, and then ground under heavy cast-iron wheels following each other in a circular cast-iron trough. The mass is compressed to give it the necessary density and strength to resist the shocks of transportation; the fragments of the cake as they come from the wheel-mill are broken down under rollers, and then spread out into layers about four inches thick, and separated by brass plates; these are brought under a powerful hydraulic press, which compresses the layers to a thickness of an inch. For the purpose of increasing and regulating the combustion, graining follows, which consists of breaking up the compressed cake into small fragments or grains; then the grains are rolled in a barrel for a certain length of time, and this operation is called glazing. The moisture which has been introduced at the various stages of manufacture is dried out by

spreading out the powder on shelves in a room heated by steam to a temperature of 140 to 180 Fahrenheit. The last step is the dusting, which is to remove the fine grains and dust, which would otherwise fill up the interstices and retard inflammation, and this is done by means of fine sieves and bolting-cloths. In regard to the first step, the refining and pulverizing, it may be said that the charcoal and sulphur are broken up in mills made for the purpose, and that the niter is usually sufficiently pulverized when it comes from the refinery. The charcoal is pulverized by rolling it in cast-iron barrels with zinc balls, and about the same method is used with the sulphur, except that the barrel is a leather one stretched on a wooden frame. The niter comes chiefly from the East Indies; the charcoal is obtained by distilling the lighter kinds of wood in iron retorts, and the sulphur comes principally from Sicily.

WRANGEL LAND.

By whom was Wrangel Island named, and why Wrangel?

D. B.

Answer.—New Columbia, or Wrangel Land, as it is better known, is north of the extreme northeastern part of Siberia, in the Arctic Ocean. It should be explained that Baron Ferdinand Wrangell was a famous Russian traveler, who was born about the year 1795, and died June 6, 1870. He was a naval officer, and in the years 1820-23 he commanded a sledge expedition which went to the Polar Sea, penetrating north of Eastern Siberia as far as latitude 72 degrees, two minutes, and finding an open sea. The adventurous nobleman's explorations were recorded and the traveler's diaries were published in the German language and translated into English and republished, while quite a full narrative appeared in Russian subsequently. In the year 1867 Captain Long traversed the Polar Sea, which had engaged the attention of the Russian explorer, and discovered an extensive territory which Wrangell had failed to reach. Captain Long named the new country Wrangel Land. This is the land of which so much has been written and held recently.

SLAVE-HOLDING NATIONS.

IRONTON, Wis.

What countries, if any, aside from Brazil, are slaveholding at the present time?

GEO. S. GRUBB.

Answer.—Spain recently adopted a plan for the gradual abolition of slavery in Cuba. The provisions of this law have been sharply criticised, as not effecting the ends proposed. In general, it may be said that the Spanish plan is similar to that which was adopted by Brazil some years ago. Spain, if we except the latest legislation, is the only European state that permits the existence of slavery in its colonies. As to Brazil, it will be interesting to know that a vigorous and growing party has sprung up there which strongly favors and urges the entire abolition of slavery. We have the *Rio News*, of Rio de Janeiro, dated Oct. 15, 1881, which contains an article on this subject. The results of the first decade of the emancipation act of

1871 are summed up, and seem to show conclusively that the plan adopted by Brazil is not working out what was prophesied of it. The law of free birth, passed Sept. 28, 1871, provided not only for the freedom of all children born of slave mothers thereafter, but also for the annual liberation of slaves. The total slave population of the empire, according to the census of Aug. 1, 1872, nearly a year after the passage of the law, was 1,510,806; but as some parishes were never heard from, and the census is very defective, it is estimated that a total of 1,600,000 is much nearer the exact figure. It is shown from statistics which are as reliable as can be obtained that from 1873 to 1880, there was a relative annual decrease of only 2 per cent; the absolute annual decrease was 2½ per cent, including deaths. In view of these facts, there is a strong movement to be made soon looking toward abolition.

FOURTH ARMY CORPS RECOLLECTIONS.

PLUM HOLLOW, Iowa.

1. I desire a short sketch of the services of General Thomas J. Wood, who commanded the Third Division of the Fourth Army Corps, and did he enter the regular army? 2. Where is General Gordon Granger? 3. Who commanded the Fourth Corps after General O. O. Howard?

A. M. CHESNEY.

Answer.—1. General Wood was born at Munsfordville, Ky., Sept. 25, 1825, and graduated at West Point in the year 1845. He entered the Topographical Engineers, and participated in some of the battles of the Mexican war, distinguishing himself at Palo Alto, and was brevetted First Lieutenant for gallantry at Buena Vista; and from 1848 to 1854 he was in active service on the Texan frontier against the Indians; in 1855 he became a Captain in the First Cavalry, and served on the Northwestern frontier from that time until 1859. In the month of March, 1861, he became Major, and in May following Lieutenant Colonel, and was employed in organizing and mustering Indiana volunteers until October, when he was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers, and in November attained the Colonelcy of the Second United States Cavalry. General Wood in February, 1862, took command of the Sixth Division of the Army of the Ohio, with which he participated in the battle of Shiloh. In October and November of 1862 he took part in the battle of Perryville and the pursuit of Bragg's army, and was among the wounded at Stone River, Dec. 31, 1862. In the Tennessee campaign and the battle of Chickamauga he commanded a division of the Twenty-first Corps, and commanded a division of the Fourth Corps at Mission Ridge, also in the relief of Knoxville and the invasion of Georgia, and was engaged in all the operations of the campaign ending in the capture of Atlanta. At Lovejoy's Station he was severely wounded, Sept. 2, 1864. General Wood commanded the Fourth Corps from December, 1864, to February, 1865, in the campaign against Hood, and took part in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. For Chickamauga and Nashville he was brevetted Brigadier and Major General,

U. S. A. He is now on the retired list. 2. General Gordon Granger is dead. 3. Van Horne, in his "History of the Army of the Cumberland," states that General Stanley succeeded General Howard to the command of the Fourth Corps.

"STONEWALL" JACKSON.

SIoux FALL, Iowa.

Will "Our Curiosity Shop" relate the circumstances attending the death of General "Stonewall" Jackson?

J. W. MORRIS.

Answer.—The story of the killing of General Jackson has been told over and over again, but never seems to be wanting in dramatic interest, and is as often read by those whom the history of the struggle for freedom never fails to attract. It was at Chancellorsville in May, 1863, when he turned Hooker's right, upon which he turned by surprise. The ill-fated Jackson rode out with his staff and escort. That was 9 or 10 o'clock of the night of May 2. He was riding on his well-known "Old Sorrell" toward his own men. The little body of horsemen were mistaken for Federal cavalry charging, and the rebel regiments on the right and left of the road fired a sudden volley into them. General Jackson received one ball in his left arm, two inches below the shoulder joint, shattering the bone and severing the chief artery; a second passed through the same arm, between the elbow and wrist, coming out through the palm of the hand; a third entered the palm of the right hand, about the middle, and passed through, breaking two of the bones. He fell from his horse, and was caught by an officer at hand. Later he was found, placed upon a litter, and conveyed to the rear. On his way to a place of safety, one of the litter-bearers was shot, and Jackson fell from the shoulders of the men, receiving a severe contusion, adding to the injury of the arm, and injuring the side considerably. He died eight days afterward at Guinea's Station, some five miles from the place where he fell.

ELI PERKINS AND BARON MUNCHHAUSEN.

STREETSBOROUGH, Ohio.

1. Who is "Eli Perkins," and what is his occupation? The papers often speak of him as not being addicted to telling the truth. 2. Who is—or was—Baron Munchhausen?

O. E. H.

Answer.—1. "Eli Perkins" is a name which Mr. Melville E. Landon assumed some years ago. He writes occasionally to the newspapers. Some people affect to classify his literary productions with the stories of Baron Munchhausen; but then there are and always will be persons whom the great, practical, work-a-day world will not take the pains to understand—persons who are never fully appreciated till they pass from the busy scenes of this life—and "Perkins" is perhaps one of them. 2. Baron Munchhausen, or, to be more exact, Hieronymus Karl Friedrich von Munchhausen, was a German soldier who was born at Bodenwerder, Hanover, in 1720, and who died there in 1797. While young he served in the Russian army as a cavalry officer. He was famous for telling wonderful stories of his adventures in the campaign in 1737 and 1739 against the Turk, and, as his narratives became

known, the Baron received by universal consent the palm as the champion liar of his times. One writer says of him: "Munchhausen was really in the habit of relating the adventures now sanctioned by the authority of his mendacious name as having positively occurred to him; and from the frequency of the repetition of the same stories, without the slightest variation in their most minute points, he at length believed the narratives he had himself invented, and delivered them with as much sang-froid as if they had described nothing but so many probable events. There was nothing of the braggart in his manner. On the contrary, he was distinguished by the peculiar modesty of his manner and demeanor."

ALICE AND PHOEBE CARY.

Give as lengthy a sketch as possible of the lives of Alice and Phoebe Cary. RACINE, Wis.
A. A. McK.

Answer.—Alice Cary was born in the Miami Valley some eight miles north of Cincinnati, Ohio, April 26, 1820. The country was then but settling, and although her parents were persons of somewhat unusual culture, yet not many advantages were enjoyed in the way of obtaining an education. However, Miss Cary early displayed literary tastes, and when only about 18 years old wrote verses, and from 1838 to 1848 was a frequent contributor in prose and poetry to the periodicals of that time. A book of poems of Alice and Phoebe appeared in Philadelphia in 1849, and the year following the sisters removed to New York. There they devoted themselves very successfully to various literary labors. Alice's last illness was protracted and attended with great suffering, which was borne with patience until her death, which occurred at New York, Feb. 12, 1871. Phoebe was four years the junior of her gifted sister. She wrote frequently, most of her works, however, being different from those of Alice. In the later years of her life, her household duties interfered with her literary pursuits. The two sisters were constant companions for the last twenty years of their lives, and their mutual sympathies and tastes made them wonderfully helpful each to the other in their beautiful home. Their writings are marked for their great naturalness and grace, and for their unfailing purity, and a spirit of deep religious conviction which pervades them. Phoebe survived her sister but a few months, expiring July 31, 1871, at Newport, R. I.

9,003—QUEEN VICTORIA AND HER PREDECESSORS.

BAILEYVILLE, Ill.
Will "Our Curiosity Shop" please give a sketch of Queen Victoria's life? When she was born, through what channel she became heir to the throne, when she became Queen, when she was married, what are the names and respective ages of her children, etc.

SUBSCRIBER.

Answer.—The less said and written in regard to the private lives of George IV. and William IV., who immediately preceded Queen Victoria, the better it will be for their memories. It is only necessary to state that neither left any children who could lay claim to the crown. The present sovereign of Great Britain

was born at Kensington Palace, May 24, 1819. Her father was Edward, Duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III., and her mother was Victoria Mary Louisa, daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. When William ascended the throne in 1830, she became heir-presumptive, and on his death without legitimate issue, June 20, 1837, she was declared the next sovereign. On June 28, 1838, she was crowned in Westminster Abbey, and was married to Prince Albert Feb. 10, 1840; and the Prince Consort died Dec. 14, 1861. Their children are: Princess Victoria (married Prince Frederick of Germany), born Nov. 21, 1840; Prince Albert Edward (Prince of Wales) born Nov. 9, 1841; Prince Alfred, (Duke of Edinburgh), born Aug. 6, 1844; Princess Helena (married Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg), born May 25, 1846; Princess Louise (married Marquis of Lorne), born March 18, 1848; Prince Arthur (Duke of Connaught), born May 1, 1850; Prince Leopold, (Duke of Albany), born April 7, 1853; Princess Beatrice, born April 14, 1857.

THE NEW HARMONY COLONY.

When was the town of Harmony, in Indiana, founded? What was the object and belief of the Harmonites? ELIZABETH, Ill.
K. F. HARWELL.

Answer.—The founder of the sect of Harmonists was George Rapp, a native of Wurtemberg. He believed he had a divine call to restore the Christian religion to its original purity, and he organized a community on what he held was the model of the Christian church in apostolic days. All goods were held in common. But the sect did not prosper as was anticipated, through difficulties which arose between the community and the government, and under Rapp's leadership they removed in 1803 to the United States, settling in Butler County, Pennsylvania, and founding the village of Harmony on Conequenessing Creek. There they remained, engaged in agriculture and manufacturing, until 1815, when they removed to the Territory of Indiana. They bought a tract of 27,000 acres of land on the Wabash, and built New Harmony, which is now in Posev County. There they remained till 1824, when they sold the property to Robert Dale Owen, and returned to Pennsylvania, this time settling in Beaver County, where the town of Economy was laid out. The Harmonists admit members of both sexes, but they do not marry. They profess Protestantism, are said to observe strict morality, and devote much attention to education. The colony now numbers about one hundred old men and women, and have accumulated property valued in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000.

JOHN WILKES BOOTH'S BIRTHPLACE.

DELOIT, Iowa.
1. In what State was John Wilkes Booth born? 2. Whom did Charles the Emperor of Germany marry? E. M. BEACH.

Answer.—1. John Wilkes Booth was born at Belair, in the State of Maryland. 2. There were a number of famous Emperors of Germany who

were known as Charles. We name several: Charles I., better known as Charlemagne, or Charles the Great; Charles II., the Bald; Charles III., the Fat; Charles IV., of the family of Luxemburg; Charles V., Emperor of Germany and King of Spain; Charles VI., the last in the male line of the pure Hapsburg family, and Charles VII., son of Maximilian Emanuel, Elector of Bavaria.

THE GORDON, OR "NO POPEY," RIOTS.

I would like to know about the life of Lord George Gordon, and an account of the Gordon, or "No Popery," riots.

HARTFORD, IOWA.
E. R. GUTHRIE.

Answer.—The political agitator, George Gordon, commonly called Lord George Gordon, was the third son of the third Duke of Gordon, and was born at London in December, 1750. While yet very young he entered the navy, where he remained until he was about 22 years of age, and two years later he entered Parliament. At first he voted with the ministry, but in 1776 strongly opposed them in a speech, in which he claimed that an attempt had been made to bribe him; then subsequently the ministry unsuccessfully endeavored to have him resign, and he would be made Vice Admiral of Scotland. He ceased to act with either party, and his independent position was sometimes used to aid the Whigs and sometimes the Tories. In 1779 there was intense excitement, caused by a proposition to procure from Parliament an act for the relief of Scottish Roman Catholics, similar to Sir George Saville's act, passed the year before, in regard to England and Ireland, and a society was organized in London, named the Protestant Association, with Gordon as President. In the beginning of 1780 he submitted a petition for the repeal of the Saville act, but the government gave it no attention, and so he called a meeting of the association, May 29, and urged that they assemble on the succeeding Friday, June 2, in St. George's fields, and carry up their petition to Parliament for the repeal of the act. It is estimated that 60,000 persons gathered at St. George's fields on the day appointed, and accompanied him to the houses of Parliament, entirely surrounding them. Parliament refused several times to take the petitions under immediate consideration, and Gordon addressed the crowd, naming the members who had opposed the measure, and saying that "there would be no help for the Scottish people till all the Popish chapels were destroyed." That evening the crowd sacked the chapels of the Sardinian and Bavarian legations, and Sunday, June 4, the violence was renewed, and continued till the following Thursday, when the city was practically at the mercy of the mob. Prisons were broken open, public buildings attacked, houses of Roman Catholics were pillaged and burned, and at one time some thirty-six fires were burning in the city. Troops came in and the riots were quelled, not, however, before 450 or more persons were killed and

wounded by the military, and a number of lives were lost by accident. Gordon was arrested June 9 for treason and confined in the tower, and was acquitted in 1781. In 1788 he was sentenced to several years' imprisonment and a heavy fine for alleged libel of the administration of criminal justice in England and the Queen of France. He died in Newgate Prison Nov. 1, 1793. It is believed he was of unsound mind for ten or twelve years before his death.

THE EARLY POSTOFFICE.

ROCKFORD, ILL.
Will the "Curiosity Shop" please tell when and where the first postoffice was established?

A READER.

Answer.—The postoffice existed in America from its earliest settlement. At the beginning it was merely a receptacle in the coffee-house. There letters that arrived from abroad were deposited, and then taken by those to whom they were addressed, or delivered by neighbors. In the records of the General Court of Massachusetts for 1639 we find "that notice be given that Richard Fairbanks his house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters which are brought beyond the seas, or are to be sent thither, to be left with him; and he is to take care that they are to be delivered or sent according to the directions; and he is allowed for every letter a penny, and must answer all miscarriages through his own neglect in this kind."

"THE MAN WITH THE IRON MASK."

KILSYTH, CAN.
I copy the following from "Notable Events," as published in a book that has just come under my notice: "Man in Iron Mask died in Bastille, 1703." I have heard references made to the same individual scores of times. In case you have not given, as far as may be known, a history of the "Iron-masked man" previously, please do so.

T. R. WALMSLEY.

Answer.—The identity of "The Iron Mask," or "The Man with the Iron Mask," has never been satisfactorily established. About the year 1679 he was carried with the utmost secrecy to the Castle of Pignerol, and wore during the journey a black mask, which was not of iron, but of black velvet, strengthened with whalebone, and secured behind with steel springs, or by means of a lock, as some say. The orders were, that if he revealed himself he was to be killed. He was conveyed in 1686 to the Isle of Sainte Marguerite, and during the passage the strictest watch was kept, that he might not allow himself to be discovered. The unknown prisoner was in 1698 transferred to the Bastille, and was, as before, hidden behind the mask. In that prison the captive remained until his death, in 1703. On Nov. 20, the day after his death, he was buried in the cemetery of St. Paul, under the name of Maohioti. The unknown was treated with the utmost respect, but so closely was he watched that he was not permitted to take off his mask even in the presence of the physician who attended him. Many conjectures have been hazarded as to who "The Man with the Iron Mask" could have been, the one generally received at the present day by those who have carefully investigated the subject being

the following: It is conjectured that he was a Count Matthioli, a minister of Charles III., Duke of Mantua. This minister had been largely bribed by Louis XIV., and had pledged himself to urge the Duke to give up to the French the fortress of Casale, which gave access to the whole of Lombardy. Louis found that Matthioli was playing him false, and lured him to the French frontier, and then had him secretly arrested and imprisoned. As he was minister plenipotentiary at the time, his seizure was a flagrant violation of international law, which it was safer to be able to deny than justify, and when the denial was made once, the "honor" of France was involved in upholding it.

WHY EASTER IS SO IRREGULAR.

To settle a dispute, please state why Easter comes sometimes the 1st of April, and sometimes the last,
BELOTT, Wis.
GRACE GARDNER.

Answer.—The apostolic age had scarcely passed before discussions occurred and dissensions ensued as to the time of celebrating Easter. It was early held by the great majority of Christian churches that much importance should be attached to the day of Christ's resurrection, and it is easy to understand how the violent controversies were brought about when differences of opinion grew in reference to the time of year when the feast should be observed. The question was brought before the Council of Nice, and finally settled for the whole church, by adopting the rule which makes Easter day to be always the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens upon, or next after, March 21, and if the full moon happens on Sunday, Easter Day is the Sunday after; so that, by this arrangement, Easter may come as early as March 22, or as late as April 25.

THE WANDERING JEW.

Will "Our Curiosity Shop" give us some account of "The Wandering Jew?"
MARYVILLE, Mo.
W. H. STEWART.

Answer.—There are various versions of the story of "The Wandering Jew," the legends of whom have formed the foundation of numerous romances, poems, and tragedies. One version is that this person was a servant in the house of Pilate, and gave the Master a blow as He was being dragged out of the palace to go to His death. A popular tradition makes the wanderer a member of the tribe of Naphtali, who, some seven or eight years previous to the birth of the Christ-child left his father to go with the wise men of the East whom the star led to the lowly cot in Bethlehem. It runs, also, that the cause of the killing of the children can be traced to the stories this person related when he returned to Jerusalem of the visit of the wise men, and the presentation of the gifts they brought to the Divine Infant, when He was acknowledged by them to be the king of the Jews. He was lost sight of for a time, when he appeared as a carpenter who was employed in making the cross on which the Savior was to be lifted up into the eyes of all

men. As Christ walked up the way to Calvary, He had to pass the workshop of this man, and when He reached its door, the soldiers, touched by the sufferings of the Man of Sorrows, besought the carpenter to allow Him to rest there for a little, but he refused, adding insult to a want of charity. Then it is said that Christ pronounced his doom, which was to wander over the earth until the second coming. Since that sentence was uttered, he has wandered, courting death, but finding it not, and his punishment becoming more unbearable as the generations come and go. He is said to have appeared in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and even as recently as the eighteenth century, under the names of Cartaphilus, and Ahasuerus, by which the Wandering Jew has been known. One of the legends described him as a shoemaker of Jerusalem, at whose door Christ desired to rest on the road to Calvary, but the man refused, and the sentence to wander was pronounced.

MOSAICS.

What is the difference between Roman, Florentine, and Byzantine mosaics?
HYDE PARK, Cook Co., Ill.
MRS. COLEMAN.

Answer.—The art of producing pictorial representations or geometrical figures by means of small pieces of stone, glass, or other hard substance, variously colored, arranged according to design, and cemented together on a solid background, has its origin away almost to time out of mind. There are, of course, many points of similarity between the several schools, and only a few of the differences are suggested. The Florentine mosaic dates from the time of the Medici, and is made entirely of precious or semi-precious stones, such as amethyst, agate, jasper, onyx, and others, cut and inlaid in forms or thin veneers best suited to produce the effects which are desired. The objects represented are most frequently birds, flowers, fruits, vases, sometimes buildings, and more rarely portraits and landscapes. In reference to the present Roman mosaic, it may be said that the smalti, or small cubes of colored glass which compose the picture, are stuck into the cementing paste, or mastic, in the same manner as were the colored glass, stone, and marble sectilia and tesserae of the ancients. Christian mosaics admit, says one writer, of two general divisions, the later Roman and the Byzantine styles, the materials in use being in general cubes of colored glass, inlaid, in the Roman school, on a ground of blue and white, although in the latter the tesserae are frequently irregular in size and the workmanship coarse. The former style flourished in Italy chiefly in the fifth and sixth centuries, the most splendid specimens being found in the churches of Rome and Ravenna.

LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

Give the readers of "Our Curiosity Shop" some account or sketch of the "land of the midnight sun."
CHICAGO.
ARCTIC.

Answer.—To many there is always something peculiarly attractive about the Polar regions;

and what has been written in regard to explorations into that unknown zone, their difficulties and dangers, has only served to increase the interest and intensify the fascination of readers of narratives concerning the search for the North Pole. This land of the midnight sun has recently been brought prominently before the world by the dispute in reference to Wrangel Land, the search for the Jeannette, and the discoveries made by Lieutenant Schwatka, the daring young officer of the Third United States Cavalry, who found the remains of the famous and fated Franklin expedition. In his book on the travels and explorations which led up to the discoveries, Mr. Gilder, the second in command of Lieutenant Schwatka's expedition, writes as follows on the midnight sun: "We were beginning to get used to the phenomena of the Arctic, not the least among which is the 'midnight sun.' It is difficult for one who has not witnessed it himself to understand the meaning of this portent. The idea of the long Arctic night seems to be much more generally comprehended. Nearly all writers upon the subject, whether those who have themselves experienced its effects, or those whose knowledge is derived from study, dwell with great force on the terribly depressing effect upon the physical organization of natives of the median zones caused by the long Arctic night whenever brought within its influence. Though much less has been written or said concerning the interminable day, its effects are almost as deleterious upon the stranger as the prolonged night. Indeed, to the sojourner in high latitudes, the day is much more appreciable, for at no point yet visited by man is the darkness the total darkness of night throughout the entire day, where the 'midnight sun' makes the nightlike noon-day. Even when the sun passes below the horizon at its upper culmination, the daylight is as intense as at noon in lower latitudes, when the sun's disk is obscured by thin clouds. The long twilight in the north, where the sun's apparent path around the earth varies so little in latitude at its upper and lower culminations, takes some of the edge off of the prolonged night at the highest latitude ever attained by the Arctic explorer; but there is nothing to relieve the 'long, long, weary day' of its full power upon the system. There (in the north), in the spring, the sun never sets. There is no morning and no night. It is one continuous day for months. At first it seems very difficult to understand this strange thing in nature. One never knows when to sleep. The world seems to be entirely wrong, and man grows nervous and restless. Sleep is driven from his weary eyelids, his appetite fails, and all the disagreeable results of protracted vigils are apparent. But gradually he becomes used to this state of affairs, devises means to darken his tent, and once more enjoys his hour of rest. In fact, he learns how to take advantage of the new arrangement, and when traveling pursues his journey at night, or when the sun is lowest, because then he finds the frost

that hardens the snow a great assistance in sledging."

WHERE PRESIDENT GARFIELD KISSED THE BIBLE.

I am curious to know, and perhaps others may be interested in learning, what book, chapter, and verses of the Bible the late President Garfield kissed when he took the oath of office and kissed the open volume?

SCRIPTURE.

Answer.—When a President is inaugurated he kisses the open page of the Bible as he takes the oath. On such occasions some one records the particular chapter and verse. The late President Garfield kissed the first six verses of the twenty-first chapter of the book of Proverbs.

A SKETCH OF SARA BERNHARDT.

BELLOIT, Wis.
State the nationality, parentage, etc., of Sarah Bernhardt, the artist and actress. GEO. E. HANSON.

Answer.—But little is known of Sara Bernhardt's early childhood. One writer, F. Ridgway Griffith, says "of Jewish origin and Dutch nationality, she was one of the eleven children of a wandering beauty of Israel. The future tragedienne was born in Holland, on the road, her mother being at the moment of Sara's nativity in the act of moving her Lares and Penates to fresh fields and pastures new." No record remains, so far as known, of her childhood, but at the age of 14, being, as she claims, irresistibly impelled, she ran away with a Dutch friend of her own age. The two girls determined to go to Paris, and, having a little money, started, arriving at the French capital with their slender means exhausted. In the next scene she appeared at a convent near Versailles, from which, after a time, she was expelled, only to be taken back again, and expelled no fewer than four different times, each time to be restored to the sisterhood. In 1861 she entered the Conservatoire and gained the first prize for tragedy, and was in consequence entitled to a debut at the Theatre Francais. Then followed many disappointments and discouragements, until she made a success in an engagement at the Odeon. During the siege of Paris she figured among the foremost of the women who devoted their means and their energies to organizing relief for the sick and wounded. In February, 1872, she again appeared at the Odeon, and created a complete furor, and her success was pronounced complete. Then, as her fame grew, the Comedie Francais invited her and she went there, but at first her success was comparatively slight. Then it increased until, in 1879, she broke her contract, went to England, and then visited America. There have been many stories told at the expense of her thinness. A young London wit conveyed his impression of her want of substance by informing his audience that he had seen an empty carriage driven up to the Gaiety and beheld Miss Sara alight from it. In a French paper is found the following: A near-sighted person approaches her. "Take care, monsieur; you will sit upon me." "Fichtrel!" exclaims the near-sighted one, recoiling in comic horror, "what a narrow escape from impalement!" And her

rivals have added: "She could take a bath in a gun-barrel. She could clothe herself with a shoe-string." Mdlle. Bernhardt has won fame as a painter and sculptor as well as an actress. Nothing need be said here of her private life.

ORIGIN OF THE CAMP MEETING.

JORDAN, Minn.
In what year was the first camp meeting held, and through whose agency, and what was its success?
CHARLES BLUME.

Answer.—There are those who trace the origin of the camp meeting to Old Testament times, and refer to many passages from Genesis to the days of John the Baptist for proofs. We will, however, consider its rise as strictly American, and make no other mention of the Bible references than are suggested in the opening paragraph. The first camp meeting in the United States was held in the year 1799, on the banks of the Red River in Kentucky. The way it came about was somewhat peculiar. Two brothers named McGee, one a Methodist and one a Presbyterian, were on a religious tour from Tennessee to a place called in those days the "Barrenes." They stopped at a settlement to attend a sacramental occasion with a Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Mr. McGreedy by name. John McGee, the Methodist, preached, on invitation, and his services are described as having been marked "with great liberty and power." McGee's brother and the Rev. Mr. Hoge followed with sermons, and their effects were remarkable, as they produced "tears of contrition and shouts of joy." The several Presbyterian ministers, the Rev. Messrs. McGreedy, Hoge, and Rankins, left the house, but the McGees were too powerfully affected to depart. John was expected to preach again, but when the time came he arose and informed the people that the overpowering nature of his feelings would not allow of his preaching, and he exhorted them to surrender their hearts to God. The excitement is said to have been indescribable. The reports of these wonderful services were heard by the people in the country round, and many rushed to the place to see the preachers and witness the unusual religious exercises. The meeting house was overflowed, and an altar was erected to the Lord in the forest. This added new interest to the movement, and people assembled from far and near, with provisions and other necessities for camping out, and remained several days, living in tents. For the time denominational divisions seemed to be forgotten, and the services were conducted by Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists. The results were so wonderful that another meeting of the same sort was suggested, and was held on the Muddy River, and still another was held on what was called the Ridge, both having been attended by great crowds, who came for many miles around. These services were continued and extended, with similar results, the Presbyterians and Methodists directing and conducting them. It is stated that at one of these meetings in Kentucky there were present at

least 20,000 persons. The Presbyterians gradually retired from the field, while the Methodists carried the meetings to all parts of the country. Since then other denominations have adopted them, and they have continued with more or less efficacy to the present time.

THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

FORT A. LINCOLN, D. T.
Will "Our Curiosity Shop" give a short sketch of the Episcopal Church, its origin, founders, age, etc.
F. F. GERARD.

Answer.—Up to the year 1783 the Episcopal Church in this country was under the oversight of the Bishop of London, and when a candidate for the ministry came to the front in America he had to go to Great Britain to obtain orders. As early, however, as 1782, a plan had been proposed for a union and organization of "the Church of England" people into an independent branch of the church of Christ, but no organization was completed until 1785, although before that the Episcopalians of Connecticut elected the Rev. Samuel Seabury, D. D., to be their Bishop, who was consecrated, in consequence of political obstacles in England, at Aberdeen, Nov. 14, 1784, by three Scottish Bishops. The general convention, which met in 1785, made application to the English Church for the consecration of bishops for the American Church, to perpetuate the succession in the Anglican line, and Dr. William White, of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Samuel Provoost, of New York, were designated and elected, and were consecrated in the Lambeth Palace Chapel Feb. 4, 1787, and Sept. 19, 1799, respectively. In 1789 the general convention met, consisting of the then bishops and clerical and lay delegates from each of the States in which any diocesan organization had been effected. The English prayer-book, as revised and adapted to the changed political circumstances of the country, was set forth to be used in all the congregations after Oct. 1, 1790. The dioceses of the church formerly corresponded in number and extent with the States, but in 1835 the division of the State dioceses began, and has continued.

MISS ANNA DICKINSON.

EATON, Delaware Co., Ind.
Will the Curiosity Shop give a short sketch of Anna Dickinson?
A. J. YOHEY.

Answer.—Miss Anna Dickinson is a native of Philadelphia, having been born there Oct. 28, 1842. Her parents were Quakers, but her father dying when she was only two years of age, her early life was one of struggle and poverty. Her education was obtained for the most part at the Friends' free schools, and her first public speech was made when she was scarcely eighteen years old, and at once established her reputation. It was delivered in January, 1860, at a meeting for the discussion of woman suffrage. During the slavery war, Miss Dickinson made numerous public patriotic and political addresses, and since then has given much time and attention to the discussion of labor reform, woman suffrage, and other subjects. Latterly she has been

upon the stage, but with indifferent success. As a public speaker, Miss Dickinson is clear, polemic, and able, and her literary efforts are marked generally for their strength.

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.

HARRISBURG, Pa.
Please tell something about the China wall: is it built around the entire empire, or merely around the capital city?
BUNSBY.

Answer.—The great wall of China was built by Che Hwang-te, who has been named "the first Universal Emperor." This ruler made many improvements, building roads, forming canals, and erecting numerous and handsome public buildings throughout his domains, as well as subduing his enemies, who were threatening him, and putting down several formidable rebellions. When he had strengthened himself and his empire, he discovered that the northern states of Thsin, Chaon, and Yen were building lines of fortification along their northern frontier for protection against the incursions of the Heung-noo, and then he conceived the idea of building one great wall, which was to stretch across the entire northern limit of the vast empire from the sea to the farthest western corner of the modern province of Kan-suh. The year 214 before Christ witnessed the beginning of this work, which was under the immediate supervision of the Emperor. It was pushed forward very vigorously, but he died before its completion. It is pronounced by some as the most gigantic work of defense ever erected by man. In some places it is a simple rampart, in others a solid foundation of granite, while the eastern section has a height of from fifteen to twenty feet, and a breadth such that six horsemen may ride abreast upon it. At various distances there are towers of brick about forty feet in height. It is stated that, with its windings, it is from 1,200 to 1,500 miles in length.

THE ONEIDA COMMUNITY.

MAZOMANIE, Wis.
Give a brief history and description of the Oneida Community?
H. F. FEHLANDT.

Answer.—The Oneida Community is a communistic society on Oneida Creek, in Lenox Township, Madison County, N. Y., about which much has been said and written, and which has some remarkable features. The founder of the organization was John Humphrey Noyes. He was born at Brattleboro, Vt., Sept. 3, 1811, and graduated at Dartmouth College, when scarcely 20 years of age. At first he studied law, but he soon forsook Blackstone and turned his attention to theology, studying at Andover and New Haven, and was licensed to preach when he was 22 years old. In 1834 he experienced what he named a "second conversion," and made at once an attempt to found a community at New Haven, which, however, was unsuccessful. Three years later he organized the existing association, at Putney, Vt., and the members removed to the present locality in 1847. The Community on Oneida Creek has a fine estate, several mills and manufactories, and is reported

to be in a prosperous condition. The cardinal principles of the Community are four in number; reconciliation to God, salvation from sin, recognition of the brotherhood and equality of man and woman, and the community of labor and its fruits. The last-named principle embraces a scheme by which all the male and all the female members of the Community are held in a sense to be married to each other. This has led to the charge being made against them of being "free-lovers," but says one writer, the system, as regulated by the "principle of sympathy," and controlled by that free public opinion which constitutes the supreme government of the society, "is far from being amenable to the reproach of immorality in any ordinary sense of the word." These "Bible Communists," as they are styled, reject all rules of conduct except those which each believer formulates for himself, subject to the free criticism of his associates. They hold that the Mosaic law and ordinances were abrogated by the second coming of Christ, which Mr. Noyes places at 70 A. D., and at which time the reign of sin was concluded, and true believers have since been free to follow the indications of the Holy Spirit in all things, nothing being good or bad in itself.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN CALIFORNIA.

STOCKDALE, Kan.
Will "Our Curiosity Shop" give us a history of the discovery of gold in California?
E. E. OLSON.

Answer.—The accounts vary slightly as to the time when gold was first discovered in California, but the most of them agree that the first find was made on the property of Sutter, in El Dorado County. Some claim the discovery was in the month of February, 1848, while others date it a month earlier. An account, which is substantially correct, was published about as follows: On Jan. 19, 1848, John W. Marshall was building a mill for himself and Sutter on the south fork of the American River, fifty-four miles east of Sutter's Fort. This mill it was expected would supply the ranches and settlements with pine lumber. On this particular morning Marshall picked up from the bed-rock of the race of the mill a small piece of yellow metal which weighed about seventeen grains. It was malleable, heavier than silver, and in all respects resembled gold. Marshall showed the piece in the afternoon to those who were working at the mill. The result of the discussion which ensued was that the idea was rejected as to the gold theory. Marshall, however, was not satisfied, and afterward tested it with nitric acid, and found it was actually gold. He discovered pieces like it in all the surrounding gulches wherever he dug for it. The news of the discovery soon spread, and in April reports of the find were published. Sutter's mill became the district of attraction, which was since named Coloma, or Culluma, from a tribe of Indians who lived in the neighborhood. The prospectors from there scattered

in all directions, and by the month of June the discoveries had extended to all the forks of the American, Weber Creek, Hangtown Creek, the Cosumnes, the Mokelumne, Tuolumne, the Yuba and Feather River, and the news had gone almost to the ends of the earth.

POPULATION OF LARGE CITIES,

ALBION, Mich.

Will "Our Curiosity Shop" give the names and population of the twenty-five largest cities in the United States?

H. F. LABERTEAU.

Answer.—The following will show the great cities of the United States, and their population, in convenient form, according to the census of 1880:

New York.....	1,206,590	Washington.....	147,307
Philadelphia.....	846,984	Newark.....	186,400
Brooklyn.....	566,689	Louisville.....	123,645
Chicago.....	503,304	Jersey City.....	120,728
Boston.....	382,535	Detroit.....	116,342
St. Louis.....	350,522	Milwaukee.....	115,578
Baltimore.....	332,190	Providence.....	104,850
Cincinnati.....	255,798	Albany.....	80,903
San Francisco.....	233,956	Rochester.....	89,363
New Orleans.....	216,140	Indianapolis.....	75,074
Cleveland.....	160,142	Allegheny.....	78,651
Pittsburg.....	156,381	Richmond, Va.....	63,803
Buffalo.....	155,137		

DR. MUDD AND HIS ASSOCIATES.

HAMPTON, Ill.

Are Michael O'Laughlin, Dr. Samuel Mudd, and Samuel Arnold, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life for complicity in the murder of President Lincoln, still in prison?

A READER.

Answer.—The following statement in reference to the convicts named is taken from Appleton's Cyclopaedia: "On Bush or Garden Key (of the Dry Tortugas) is Fort Jefferson. During the civil war the fort was used as a penal station for Confederate prisoners, and in 1865 O'Laughlin, Spangler, Arnold, and Mudd, found guilty by a military commission of participation in the assassination of President Lincoln, were sent thither to serve out their terms of imprisonment, but were pardoned by President Johnson, except O'Laughlin, who died there."

FIRST REAPER IN THE UNITED STATES.

HAVANA, Ill.

Who was the inventor of the first reaper in the United States?

G. E. M.

Answer.—The first reaping machine in America was patented in 1803 by Richard French and John J. Hawkins, but it was not successful. Prior to 1832 there were granted in the United States only eight patents for machines for cutting grain. No inventor, however, succeeded in producing machines that possessed sufficient practical merit to be used otherwise than experimentally until we come to Bell, Hussey, and McCormick, whose machines have since become so well known.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

SCRANTON, Pa.

What is the origin of our day of thanksgiving?

T. R. H.

Answer.—The origin of our annual fall feast day, Thanksgiving, is an ever-recurring question, and one which seems to call, now and again, for a word of explanation. The rugged, liberty-loving, God-fearing Pilgrims were well versed in Scriptural lore, a statement to the truth of which everyone will testify, who is at all familiar with the history, literature, and

laws of old New England. It was easy for them to find mention in the Bible of the feast of the tabernacles, one of the three greatest Jewish feasts; also called "The feast of in-gathering," because it came at the end of the harvest, and was distinguished for much innocent mirth, and it was commanded to rejoice before the Lord. In addition to this, the observance of a day of thanksgiving was not unusual in Europe, such times having been recommended under various circumstances by the civil authorities. Indeed, it is recorded that in 1575, the city of Leyden, Holland, set apart a day to be observed by thanksgiving, on the first anniversary of its safe delivery from a besieging enemy; and it cannot be doubted that the Pilgrims were acquainted with this and other instances of public celebrations of a like character, as many of them were sojourners in Holland before they sailed for these shores. It is related that when, in 1621, the first harvest at Plymouth had been gathered in, Governor Bradford sent out several men fowling, in order, says the chronicler, that they "might after a more especial manner rejoice together." Two years later the colonists' crops suffered because of the exceeding dry weather, and a day for prayer and fasting was set apart; while the devout were engaged in these services the heavens opened and abundant showers fell, so that there was a day of thanksgiving had, attended by religious exercises, and the feeble band of settlers. From that time days of rejoicing were celebrated in the several New England colonies, now because supplies had been received from over the sea, and again for the action of the British privy council, which was favorable to the Puritan pioneers. Nor was the custom confined to the New England colonies, for we find that the Dutch of New Netherland had their days of thanksgiving, a practice continued later in New York by several English Governors. The great Washington himself set the seal of his approval on the custom, by request of Congress, in recommending, in 1789, a day of thanksgiving for the adoption of the Constitution. So all the way down the colonial history of America, and since the United States became a Nation, the custom has been continued, and was revived by the martyr Lincoln, and has become a regular holiday.

AN ÆOLIAN HARP.

NEW ERA, Mich.

Tell us how to make an Æolian harp, ancient and modern?

E. F. CARR.

Answer.—The Æolian harp, the invention of which is ascribed to Athanasias Kircher, who lived in the seventeenth century, is a simple musical instrument, the sounds of which are produced by the vibration of strings moved by wind. It may be composed of a rectangular box made of thin boards, five or six inches deep and about the same width, and of a length sufficient to extend across the window it is to be set at, so that the breeze coming in can sweep over it.

Sometimes its strings are made as follows: At the top of each end of the box a strip of wood is glued about a half inch in height; the strings are then stretched lengthwise across the top of the box, and may be either catgut or wire. For the purpose of making a fine-toned harp, the strings should be tuned in unison by means of pegs constructed to control their tension, as in the case of a violin. The instrument is then ready to be placed at the window, which, when partly raised, will admit a current of air, and this passing over the strings produces very pleasant sounds which vary with the breeze. It receives its name from Æolus, the god or ruler of the winds.

MISS CLARA BARTON AND THE RED CROSS.

GREAT BEND, Barton Co., Kan.

Is Miss Clara Barton, who rendered important sanitary aid to the army in the war of the rebellion, connected with some public business or philanthropy? This county (Barton) is named in honor of her.

L. BALDWIN.

Answer.—Miss Clara Barton has a place in our history which entitles her to the name of the American Florence Nightingale, and is a bright star in that great galaxy of patriotic women who, whether at home, in hospital, or on the tented field, contributed so much to alleviate the sufferings of the boys in blue who, at their country's call, had left the plow, the workshop, or the desk to go down to the fields of the sunny South for freedom and the Union. Born on a Massachusetts farm, but early enjoying educational advantages, Miss Barton soon engaged in teaching, and among her enterprises was the founding of a free school at Bordentown, the first of the kind, it is said, in New Jersey. It began with only six pupils, and numbered 600, when, in the year 1854, she went to Washington, where she was appointed clerk in the department of patents. When the slavery war broke out she resigned her position there, and devoted herself to the work of alleviating the sufferings of the soldiers, laboring on the battle-field, and doing a noble work. Miss Barton was present at several battles, which fact alone illustrates the character and heart of this New England heroine, and gives her rank beside that leader of old England's nurses in the Crimean war. When the slavery struggle ended Miss Barton devoted much of her time and means in searching for soldiers who belonged to that all-too-large list of "missing." In 1866-67 she lectured on incidents of the war, and then went to Europe for her health. When war was declared between France and Germany, the Grand Duchess of Baden invited her to aid in the establishing of her hospitals, which Miss Barton accepted, and subsequently accompanied the German army, and was decorated with the Golden Cross by the Grand Duke of Baden, and with the Iron Cross by the Emperor William. Miss Barton later returned to America, and is now the President of the National Association of the Red Cross. The Red Cross is a confederation of relief societies in different countries, whose aim is to

ameliorate the condition of wounded soldiers in the armies in campaign on land or sea. The societies had their rise in the conviction of certain philanthropic persons, that the official sanitary service in wars is usually insufficient, and that the charity of the people, which at such times exhibits itself munificently, should be organized for the best possible utilization. An international public conference was called at Geneva, Switzerland, in 1863, which, though it had not an official character, brought together representatives from a number of governments. At this conference a treaty was drawn up, afterward remodeled and improved, which twenty-five governments signed. The treaty provides for the neutrality of all sanitary supplies, ambulances, surgeons, nurses, attendants, and sick or wounded men, and their safe conduct when they have the sign of the organization, namely, the red cross. The convention which originated the organization was necessarily international, yet the relief societies themselves are entirely national and independent, each one governing itself and making its own laws, according to the genius of its nationality and needs. The red cross was chosen out of compliment to the Swiss Republic, where the first convention was held. The Swiss colors are a white cross with a red ground, while the badge chosen is these colors reversed. The societies have, since their organization, done a remarkable and effective work in the relief of sufferers in times of war, pestilence, and famine. Its future purpose is a thorough and widespread organization in America, prepared at short notice to render assistance to suffering humanity in seasons of national calamities, as plagues, cholera, yellow fever, devastating floods or fires, railway disasters, mining catastrophes, and the like. The most eminent men and women in this country are pledged to this noble organization, and President Arthur, in his recent message, commended the plan to Congress.

NUMBER OF REBEL TROOPS.

ALTOONA, Ill.

Please answer, to satisfy your many readers, the following question: What was the exact number of troops on the Confederate side of the late war?

J. B. HALL.

Answer.—It has been impossible to obtain what could be called exact statistics of the rebel force, except as given in McPherson's "History of the Rebellion," as follows:

Alabama.....	40,000	Texas.....	29,000
Florida.....	4,000	Tennessee.....	34,000
Georgia.....	54,000	Virginia.....	103,000
Louisiana.....	36,000	Arkansas.....	28,000
Mississippi.....	40,000	Kentucky.....	20,000
North Carolina.....	25,000	Maryland.....	20,000
South Carolina.....	25,000		
Missouri.....	35,000	Total.....	493,000

It is stated by the same authority that "the estimate of Maryland must be excessive." General Badeau says in his "Military History of Ulysses S. Grant" (volume III., page 639), that May 26, the "last organized rebel force disappeared from the territory of the United States. Every man who had borne arms against the

government was a prisoner. One hundred and seventy-four thousand, two hundred and twenty-three rebel prisoners were paroled."

POLAR EXPLORATIONS.

STANBERRY, Mo.
What have been some of the recent explorations to the arctic regions? J. M. H.

Answer.—For many years explorers have made attempts to penetrate to the far north, seeking the open polar sea, which was believed to exist, and endeavoring to penetrate to the north pole. It would be impossible in the narrow limits here to give the details of even one voyage to the north, and hence no more than a reference can be made to the expeditions that have gone to the land of the midnight sun. In 1850 an arctic expedition was fitted out by Henry Grinnell, of New York, with Lieutenant E. J. DeHaven as commander and Dr. Elisha Kent Kane as naturalist and surgeon. This is classed as the first United States expedition of search; it returned in 1851 without finding trace of Franklin. Dr. Kane in 1853 sailed from Boston in the *Advance*, with a company of seventeen men, among whom was Dr. Hayes, who died Saturday, Dec. 17, 1881; they encountered many dangers, and returned to Boston, where they arrived Oct. 11, 1855. On May 29, 1860, the first expedition of Charles Francis Hall sailed from New London, Conn., to search for Franklin, and returned, without finding any trace of that navigator, after an absence of two years. Dr. Hayes sailed from Boston July 9, 1860, in the schooner *United States*, of 133 tons, with fourteen persons in the party, not including himself; he reached land in latitude 81 deg. 37 min. Hall started from New London, Conn., on his second trip, July 30, 1864, and returned in 1869; and again he fitted out an expedition by a Congressional appropriation, and went north to find the open polar sea, but he died in Greenland, Nov. 8, 1871; his vessel was the *Polaris*, which sailed from New York June 29, 1871. On July 8, 1879, the steamer *Jeannette* was fitted out at San Francisco by James Gordon Bennett for an arctic trip through Behring's Straits, the crew numbering thirty-two men. On June 19, 1878, Lieutenant Fred Schwatka, with a party of five, left New York in search of the remains of the Franklin party, which were found, and the party returned after an absence of over two years. There are now several United States expeditions in the arctic regions in search of the *Jeannette*, whose crew have just been heard from. A proposition has been made by a prominent and adventurous English naval officer to go north as far as possible by vessel and sledges, and take balloons and with them seek the north pole. It is stated that the sum of \$150,000 is needed for the expedition, and that already the most of the necessary fund has been subscribed.

RELIGION OF THE PRESIDENTS.

The question as to the religion of the Presidents of the United States is asked now about as

often as the one in regard to how many Presidents were members of the Masonic order. Some time ago, on information which was believed to be reliable, we answered the first. Since that time, however, writers in the *Evangelist*, of New York, and the *Interior*, of Chicago, have investigated the subject quite carefully, and their inquiries have suggested several changes, of which we desire our readers to have the advantage. It is stated that Jackson was in sympathy with the Presbyterian Church, and became a communicant and office-bearer after his retirement from the Presidency. Millard Fillmore was a Unitarian; and no evidence exists, as they believe, that either Madison or Monroe were members of any church, and their denominational preferences are left in doubt. Van Buren was accustomed to attend the Dutch Reformed Church at Kinderhook, but was not a communicant. Harrison was a communicant of the Episcopal Church before he became President. Tyler was an Episcopalian in faith, but not a communicant, and Polk and Buchanan attended the Presbyterian Church, as did Lincoln, but neither was a communicant. Andrew Johnson is claimed by both the Methodists and Presbyterians. President Arthur is the son of a Baptist minister, but attends the Episcopal Church. These are the statements made by gentlemen who have investigated the matter carefully, and they are given as adding to the answer given some time ago.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD'S FAMILY.

LOOUST GROVE, Kan.
How many brothers had the late James A. Garfield, and how many were therein the family? J. W. McD.

Answer.—A few lines from Mr. E. V. Smalley's life of Garfield will be of interest in a reply to the above inquiry: "Feb. 3, 1819, Abram Garfield and Eliza Ballou were married in the village of Zanesville by a justice of the peace named Richard H. Hozan. The bridegroom lacked nine months of being 21 years of age, and the bride was only 18. They went to Newburg, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, now a part of the city of Cleveland, and began life in a small log house on a farm of eighty acres. In January, 1821, their first child, Mehitabel, was born. In October, 1822, Thomas was born, and Mary in October, 1824. In 1826 the family removed to New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, where they remained three years. In 1827 the fourth child, James B., was born; he died 1830. In January of the latter year Abram went to Orange Township, Cuyahoga County, and obtained some land, and there James A. Garfield was born, Nov. 19, 1831."

THE KUKLUX KLAN.

MATTOON, Ill.
What was the origin of the Kuklux Klan? U. S. VILLARS.

Answer.—The Kuklux Klan was organized, it is generally admitted, in the State of Tennessee about the beginning of the year 1868. From the month of January to May it spread so rapidly all

over the Southern States that, according to some of the best authorities, by the middle of the year the organization numbered no fewer than 500,000 men. The objects of the Klan were to oppose the enforcement of the reconstruction acts, the elevation and education of the colored race in the South, to prevent colored men from exercising the right of suffrage, to maintain the rule of the Bourbon whites in the South, and to prevent the immigration of whites into the South from the North and the introduction of Northern industries; and all this was for the alleged purpose of "redeeming the South." The organization was divided into districts in each of the Southern States; at the head of each division or district was a grand officer, who, with numerous assistants, was given power to appoint the work and duty of each man in his division; and each member was bound under the most solemn oath. Some of the devilish deeds of the murderous Klan were brought to light by the Congressional investigations instituted, but no chronicle has yet appeared, nor will any ever be able, to depict the horrors of the midnight warfare upon weak and helpless negroes and their families, the outrages by men in ghostly disguises, the homes destroyed—in short, that condition of affairs which has made the exodus to Kansas possible, and which is the only true meaning of the wholesale migration of the colored people of the South to the free soil of that State.

THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

Will "Our Curiosity Shop" tell us all about the "franking privilege?"

UNIONTOWN, Pa.
KEystone.

Answer.—The "franking privilege" is by no means, as some suppose, an American product. Over two hundred years ago in England the right was claimed by the House of Commons, and was taken advantage of, and continued till 1839. In France it was long considered the proper thing. In the United States its first appearance was in 1776, when it was granted to all private soldiers actually in service for letters written by and to themselves. The ordinance of 1782, repealing previous legislation in regard to the postoffice, made free all letters, packets, and dispatches to and from members and Secre-

tary of Congress, while actually attending, the Commander-in-chief and separate army commanders, the heads of the departments of finance, war, and foreign affairs of the United States on public service, as well as single letters directed to any officers of the line in actual service. From that time the privilege was extended and enlarged until the spasmodic reform of 1845, after which it was still further increased. The act repealing the privilege was passed Jan. 31, 1873, and was in force July 1, 1873.

MICHIGAN'S FIRST RAILROAD.

An inquiry was received in the early part of the year as to what was the first road built in the State of Michigan. The question was answered in part, and subsequently the following facts were added by the *Adrian Times*. The first road in operation in the State, according to this authority, was the Erie and Kalamazoo, between Adrian and Port Laurence (now Toledo). The first steps were taken to construct the road before Adrian was an incorporated village, and while the mails were transported from Monroe by ox teams. Among the Adrian pioneers conspicuous in the movement were Darius Comstock, Addison J. Comstock, George Crane, E. C. Winter, Caleb N. Ormsby, and Joseph Gibbon. According to the Hon. A. L. Millard, there was a charter obtained for the Erie and Kalamazoo Road from the Legislative Council of Michigan in April, 1833, and in March, 1834, books of subscription for stock were opened at Adrian, and the amount required to organize the company—\$50,000—was soon subscribed, and the company fully organized in May of that year, and immediately entered upon the work. Cars commenced running between Port Laurence and Adrian in 1836, and continued to run by horse power until June, 1837, when the wooden rails gave place to strap rails, and the horses were superseded by locomotives. The Michigan Central had a charter granted it ten months before the one was issued to the Erie and Kalamazoo, but the latter road was run by horses a year and by locomotives some six months before the Central was opened for business.

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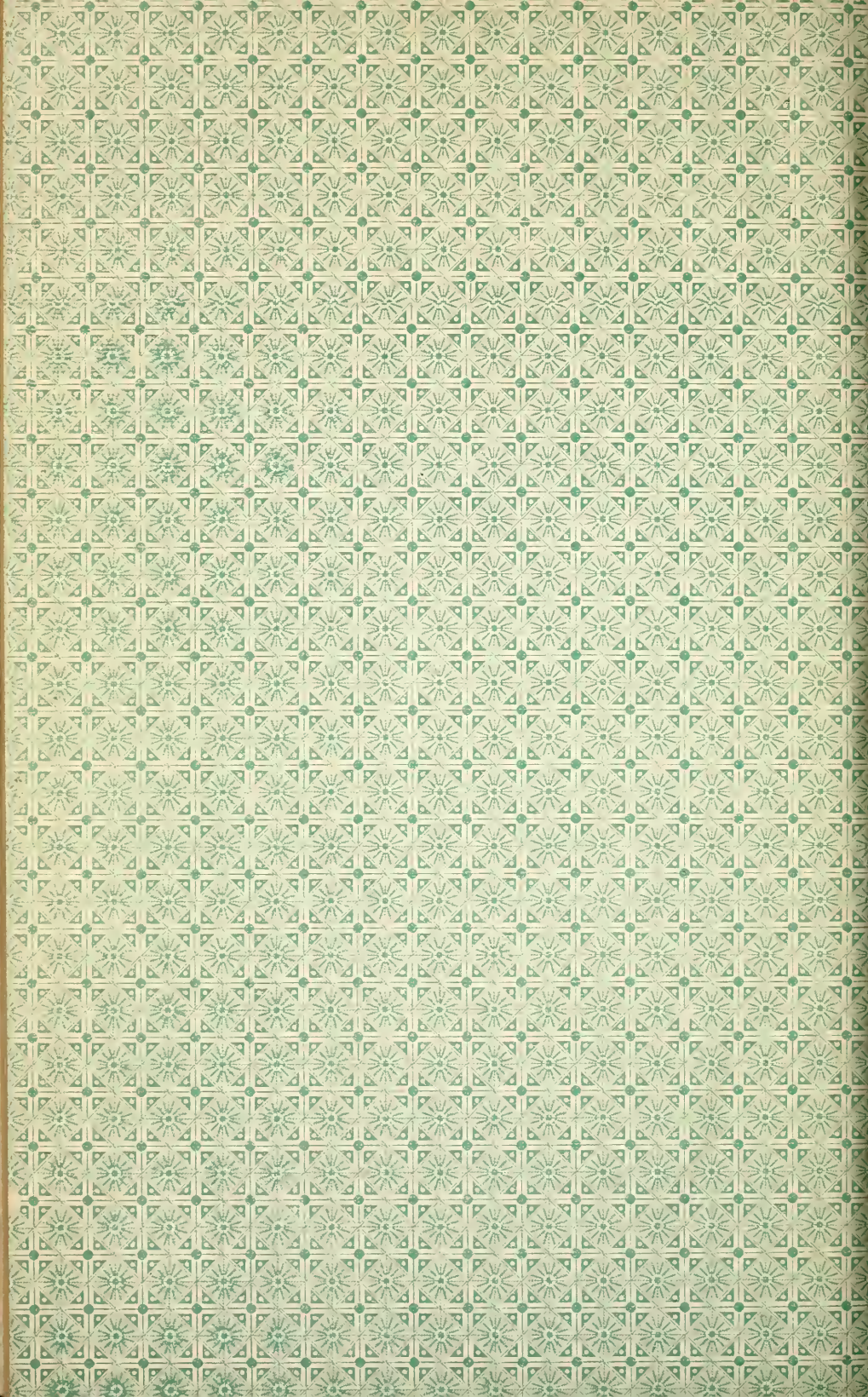
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